

ALL ABOUT HISTORY

Hitler's Hollywood

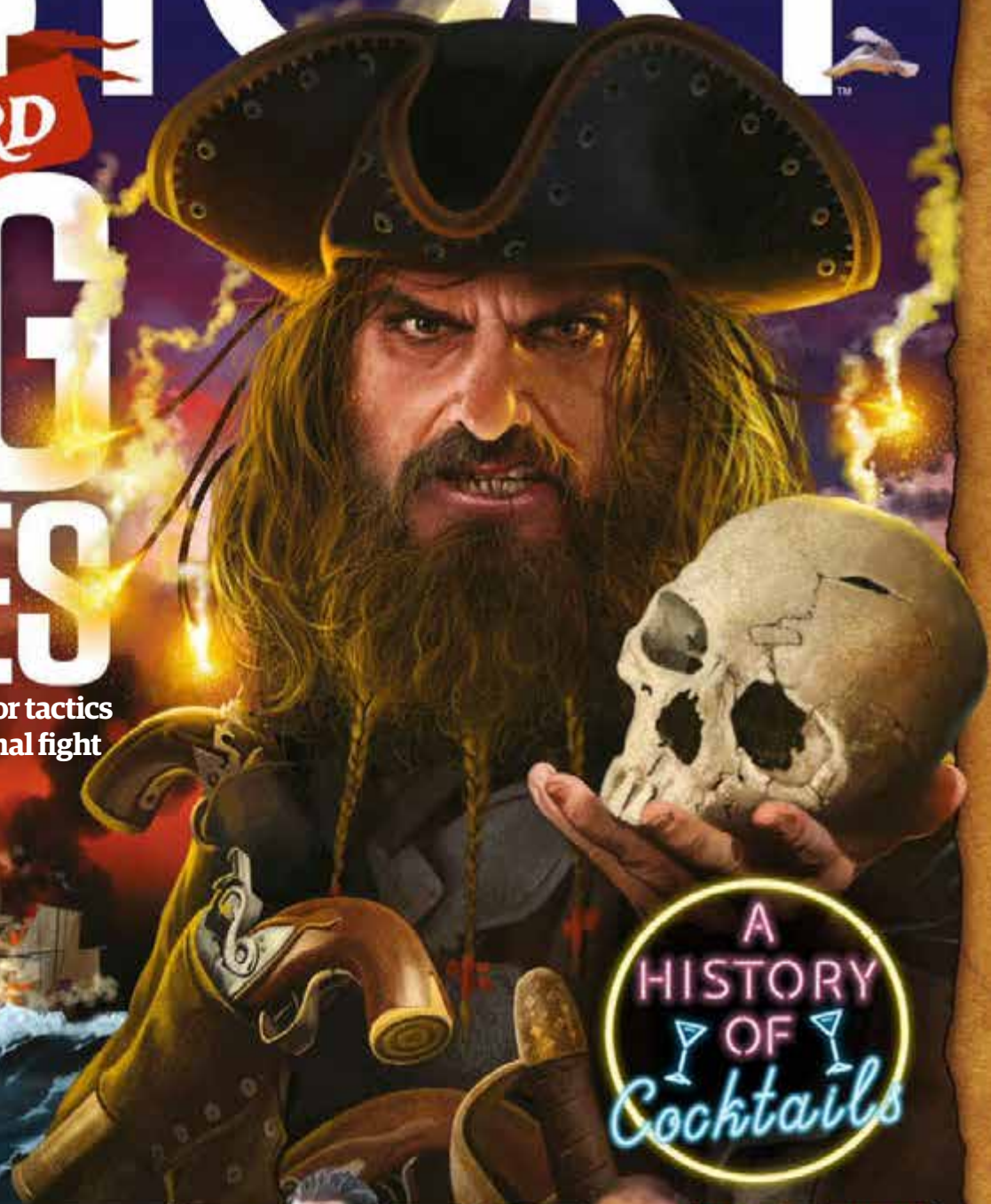
How Leni Riefenstahl sold her soul for art



BLACKBEARD

KING OF THE PIRATES

The truth behind the myth Terror tactics
Living by the Pirate Code His final fight



A
HISTORY
OF
Cocktails



**JOAN
OF ARC**

Was the Maid of Orléans
a victim or heroine?



**GATEWAY TO
THE USA**

How Ellis Island built the
Immigrant Nation



**SAXONS VERSUS
VIKINGS**

Bernard Cornwell on TV's
The Last Kingdom



SECRETS OF THE KGB

Origins and dark dealings
of the Soviet secret police

**PLUS: TUDOR COURT BATTLE OF PUEBLA JACOBITE RISINGS
MEIJI RESTORATION VIKING SETTLERS SS GREAT BRITAIN**

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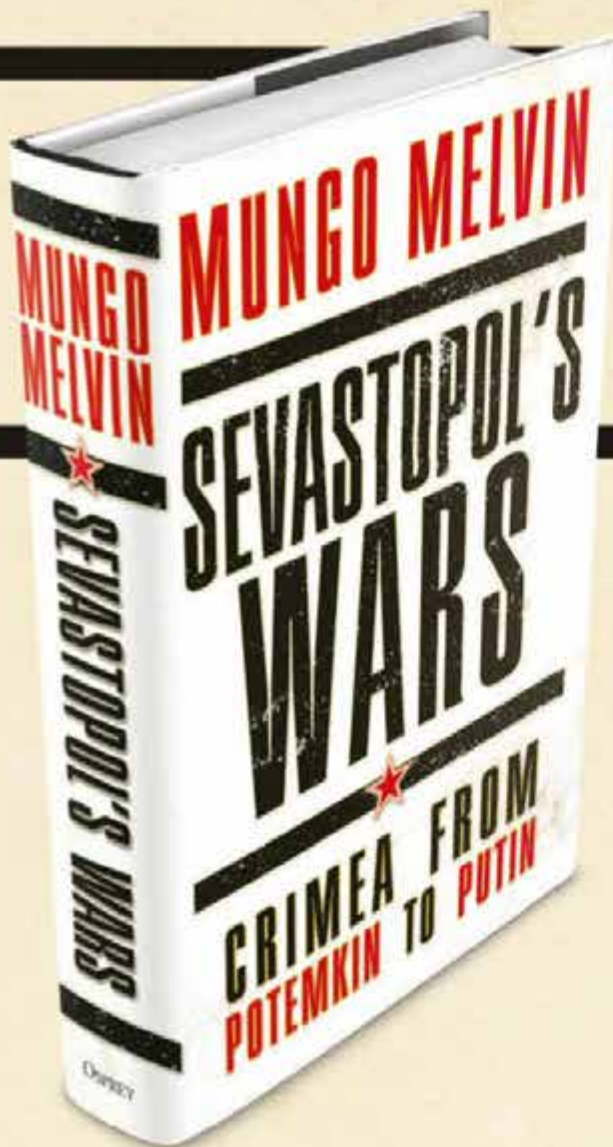
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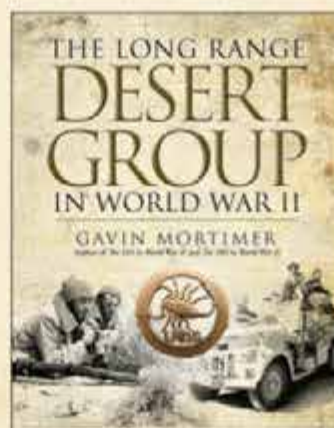
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Discover the story of warrior woman Joan of Arc on page 42

Welcome

The city of Bristol has many claims to fame and it's amazing to think the place that gave us the SS Great Britain and Banksy is also the birthplace of Blackbeard. The world's most notorious pirate has gone down in legend, but aside from likely having a thick West Country accent, everything else we think we know about him is probably wrong.

Take the movie *Pirates Of The Caribbean: On Stranger Tides* for example, where Blackbeard, played by Ian McShane, murders and maims for his own amusement. "If I don't kill a man every now and then, they forget who I am," he reasons. In reality, however, there are no records of the captain killing anyone. Blackbeard much preferred to

intimidate and manipulate, as you'll discover on page 30. You may also be surprised how civilised life was on board a pirate ship, as they sailed the Seven Seas.

Speaking of sailing, I'm setting course for new horizons, as this is my last issue of **All About History**. Thank you to everyone who has been part of the journey!



Jodie Tyley
Editor

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Leni Riefenstahl

The woman who captured Hitler's vision on film denied she was a Nazi, claiming she knew nothing of his plans. Read her story and decide for yourself.

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A history of cocktails

From health hazards viewed with suspicion, to the height of sophistication, find out how cocktails have evolved over the years and the stories behind them.

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The Last Kingdom

Features Editor Peter Price sits down with Bernard Cornwell, whose historical novels have inspired the television series *Sharpe* and BBC's *The Last Kingdom*.

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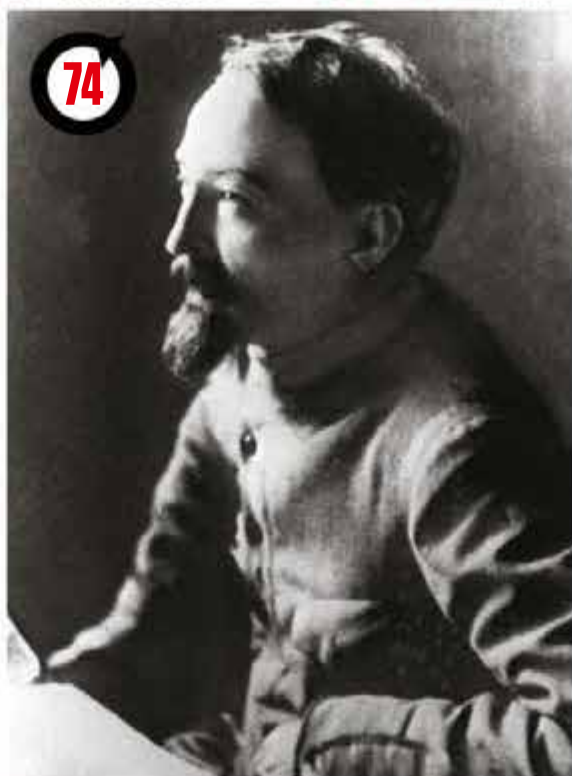
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How accurate is *The Messenger: The Story Of Joan Of Arc*'s depiction of the heroine of France?

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HISTORY IN PICTURES

"I OWE MARILYN A REAL DEBT"

It was the 1950s and Mocambo was the most popular jazz club in Hollywood, but this changed when Marilyn Monroe discovered that her favourite singer, Ella Fitzgerald, was not allowed to perform there due to her race. Marilyn demanded the singer be booked immediately, and in return she would sit front-row every night. Fitzgerald said: "After that, I never had to play a small jazz club again."

1954



A color photograph of a French machine gunner in a trench during the Second Battle of the Aisne. The soldier is wearing a grey uniform and a helmet, kneeling on the ground and operating a machine gun. The background shows the ruins of a city with smoke rising from the buildings.

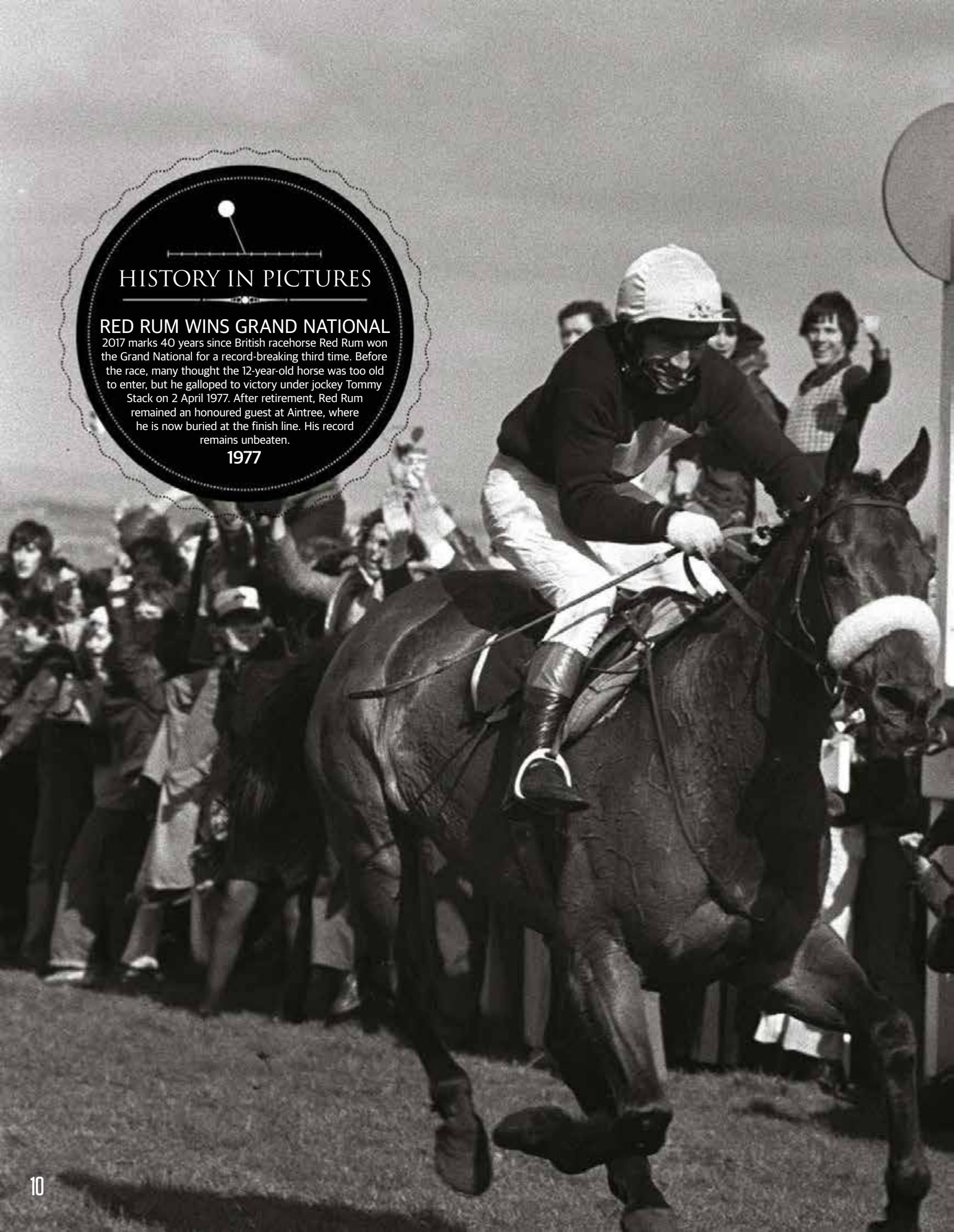
HISTORY IN COLOUR

SECOND BATTLE OF AISNE

Here, a French section of machine gunners take position in the ruins of the Western Front, during the Second Battle of the Aisne. Despite General Robert Georges Nivelle's confidence that the French would achieve a swift victory, over 120,000 men were lost in just five days. Nivelle continued the offensive, but by May 1917 mutinies began to break out in the ranks and the general was forced to resign.

1917





HISTORY IN PICTURES

RED RUM WINS GRAND NATIONAL

2017 marks 40 years since British racehorse Red Rum won the Grand National for a record-breaking third time. Before the race, many thought the 12-year-old horse was too old to enter, but he galloped to victory under jockey Tommy Stack on 2 April 1977. After retirement, Red Rum remained an honoured guest at Aintree, where he is now buried at the finish line. His record remains unbeaten.

1977





HISTORY IN COLOUR

A SAMI FAMILY IN NORWAY

The Sami are an indigenous people, inhabiting what is now Sweden, Finland, Norway and Russia for hundreds of years. For generations, they lived in communities called *sii'da*, hunting, fishing and trading. They led a nomadic lifestyle and migrated with the reindeer. However, during the 1900s, policies, laws and taxes oppressed the Sami and forced many to change their lifestyle and culture.

c.1900



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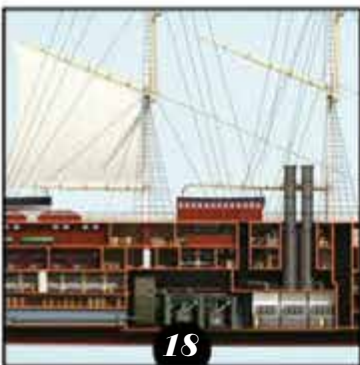
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ALL ABOUT

IMMIGRATION

From Viking settlers to Ellis Island arrivals, discover how people have been creating borders and crossing them through the ages



Landmarks in immigration

From conquest and colonisation to economic improvement and religious freedom, for thousands of years people have moved around the globe in search of a better life

OUT OF AFRICA

Possibly due to volcanic fallout that was caused by a super eruption at Toba in modern Indonesia, anatomically modern humans migrate out of Africa, and permanently colonise Eurasia and Australasia.



FIRST GREEK COLONIES

Ancient Greeks from Euboea establish trading colonies at Al Mina on the coast of Syria and Pithekoussai in the Bay of Naples in the hope of stimulating commerce with locals.



C.75,000 BCE

800 BCE

FIRST FLEET

11 ships carrying around 1,350 people, the majority of whom are convicts, make landfall in Sydney Cove. They establish the Colony of New South Wales, the first European settlement of Australia.



WILLOW PALISADE

In order to prevent Han Chinese from moving north into the homelands of the ruling Qing dynasty, a vast bank-and-ditch palisade that is planted with willow trees is constructed along the border with Manchuria.



VOYAGE OF THE MAYFLOWER



102
50

migrants sail on the Mayflower to establish Plymouth Colony in North America

die at sea or during the first winter, mainly due to disease and the weather

Only 37 are religious separatists - the rest are farmers and servants recruited by London merchants



Two ships initially set sail for the New World, but one of them - Speedwell - leaks and has to return to Britain

JOHN BLANKE

An African musician arrives at Henry VII's court in the retinue of Catherine of Aragon. John Blanke is one of the first black people in post-Roman England whose name we know.



1788

1644

1620

1501

GREAT FAMINE

Mass starvation in Ireland resulting from potato blight leads to a peak in migration away from the Emerald Isle. Many settle in Liverpool, but others make the longer trip to Boston and New York.



ELLIS ISLAND

On its first day of operation, 700 immigrants pass through the New York inspection station



Immigrants are checked for more than

60

diseases that might prevent entry to the USA

12 MILLION people will use Ellis Island as a gateway before it closes in 1954



The first migrant to visit Ellis Island, Annie Moore gets a \$10 gold piece to mark the occasion

GREAT MIGRATION

Over a period of 60 years, more than six million African-Americans move from the rural south to the cities of the north in search of work, and to escape Ku Klux Klan-led racism.



1845

1892

1910

SETTLEMENT OF MADAGASCAR

Austronesians sail to Madagascar on outrigger canoes. It makes Madagascar one of the last landmasses to be settled by humans.



200 BCE

COLONIA CAMULODUNUM

Founded to settle retired legionaries, it is the

FIRST
colonia in Britannia



Camulodunum is designated a colonia; one of

500
across the Roman Empire



The city may have reached a population of

30,000



49 CE

ARRIVAL OF THE GOTHs

The Goths, who were pushed westwards by other barbarian tribes, claim asylum from the Roman Empire. The two groups quickly descend into fighting, and Roman emperor Valens is killed at the Battle of Adrianople.



376

CRUSADER STATES

After a Papal call to arms, European kings wage war to recover the Holy Land. For most of the next 200 years, Christian soldiers and traders live in the Crusader states known as Outremer.



1095

VARANGIAN GUARD

Distrustful of his own people, Byzantine emperor Basil II establishes an elite bodyguard comprised of warriors from Kievan Rus'. Vikings and Anglo-Saxon migrants will also serve in the unit over the next 200 years.



Serving with the Varangian Guard is Harald Hardrada, who becomes king of Norway

988

ANGLO-SAXON ENGLAND

The end of Roman rule in Britain acts as the signal for Germanic tribes to migrate across the North Sea, establishing new kingdoms including East Anglia, Mercia, Northumbria and Wessex.



410

POTSDAM AGREEMENT

The redrawing of borders after World War II leads to the forced migration and resettlement of more than 20 million people, including Germans expelled from occupied territory.



1945

PARTITION OF INDIA

The separation of India and Pakistan leads to 14.5 million people crossing the border to live among a religious majority, although partition is violent with massacres occurring on both sides.



1947

EMPIRE WINDRUSH

492 West Indians arrive in London with newly granted rights to live in the UK

There are **172,000** West Indians living in the UK by 1961, known as the Windrush Generation

There are also

60

Poles aboard, returning to Europe after being displaced by the war

A stowaway is given £50 to pay her fare by the other passengers after she is discovered



1948



SS GREAT BRITAIN

THE AUSTRALIAN GOLD RUSH, 1852

On 21 August 1852, SS Great Britain left the port of Liverpool for a mammoth journey bound for Australia. It was the start of the gold rush and this mighty ship – built by innovative engineer Isambard Kingdom Brunel – carried 630 passengers in search of a new life and the alluring promise of fortune. The voyage included an unscheduled refuelling stop on the remote island of St Helena; a diversion that added 20 days to the journey. While this may not seem like much, it infuriated the poorer passengers who had to endure the cramped conditions, food ‘fit only for pigs’ and ‘offensive’ toilets for even longer than they had anticipated.

As is to be expected, those in first class fared rather better, with private cabins and dishes such as grouse, veal pies, tarts, jelly, blancmange and cheese. Eventually, after 81 days, the ship reached Melbourne where thousands turned out to see it arrive – even paying for the privilege. The ship was, after all, the first luxury ocean liner, having originally been designed to take the wealthy to New York in comfort.

Launched in 1843, SS Great Britain was so technologically advanced that it was once described as being “the greatest experiment since the creation.” The early voyages proved uneconomic and the ship was sold, and then refitted so as to accommodate more passengers on the gold rush route. One of those on that first Australian voyage was John Sadleir, an Irishman who joined the police in Melbourne and later gained fame for helping to capture the notorious outlaw Ned Kelly.

SS Great Britain made 32 round trips to Australia between 1852 and 1875, carrying so many migrants that it is estimated nearly 1 million Australians and New Zealanders are descended from its passengers. The ship became a cargo vessel and was later left to the mercy of the elements, before being salvaged and restored. The ship eventually came to return to its hometown of Bristol in England, where it is currently on display to the public.

Sporting fixture

Passengers that made the journey on SS Great Britain included members of the first All England cricket team to tour Australia. They travelled there in 1861 and attracted a crowd of 15,000 for the opening match in Melbourne. The writer Anthony Trollope also sampled life on board, producing the novel *Lady Anna* on the voyage.

A floating farmyard

In order to provide the wealthier passengers with fresh meat, live animals were kept on deck and slaughtered when required. Edward Towle, who travelled on that first voyage to Australia, wrote in his diary that he was woken in the morning by “the crowing of cocks and cackling of ducks.” On one journey in 1859, a list of creatures on board included 133 sheep, 38 pigs, a cow, 400 geese and 30 turkeys.



First class pleasures

Those lucky enough to be able to afford the first class fare had their own cabins, and ate fine food in an elegant dining room lit with gas lamps and decorated with paintings on glass of armorial shields. They were able to exercise in an airy, promenade room if it was too rough to go on deck.

Changing rooms

The number of first class cabins was reduced when the ship was redesigned for the gold rush route, as it was now an emigrant ship and no longer a luxury liner. A new deck was added so that 730 passengers could make the journey with the majority of spaces designed for second class and third class travellers – as well as those in steerage.

Sails and steam

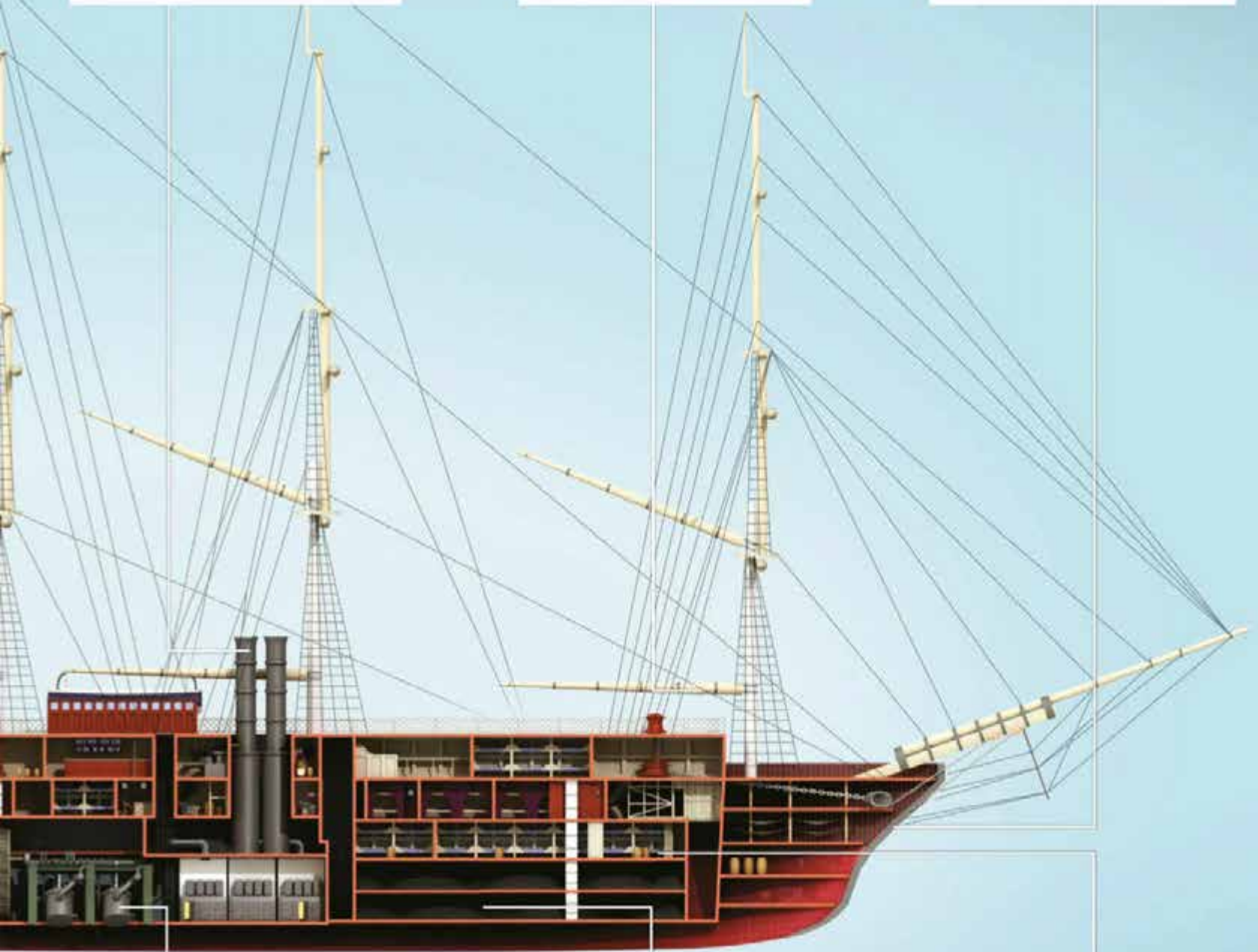
The ship was originally designed for speed and was essentially a steamship with sails - the world's first six-masted schooner. There was one funnel and the sails were there to supplement the engine, making it fuel-efficient. It was so fast it was nicknamed "the greyhound of the seas." When re-fitted for Australian voyages, masts were removed and a new funnel added. Steam was now only used when the sails needed a backup.

Maritime dangers

Life on board could be perilous for the seamen, who had to work aloft in often terrible weather in order to operate the sails. In 1852, one of the sailors fell from one of the yards - the horizontal beams attached to the mast - and plummeted into the sea. The ship was moving fast and the water was rough, so the captain decided it would be too dangerous to try and save him.

Iron strength

Instead of building the ship's hull from timber, as was traditional, Brunel used iron, which is far stronger. This allowed him to create a much larger steamship that had greater capacity and which was also more energy efficient, though many thought it would never float. SS Great Britain was the world's first iron-hulled ship and so powerful that it generally cut journey times in half.



Revolutionary design

Coal was burned to heat water boilers - these then created steam that could drive the ship's mighty 1,000 horsepower engine. Brunel had intended to use conventional paddles to drive the vessel, but changed his design at the last minute to include an innovative steam-driven, screw propeller instead. This was far more powerful than paddles, as it stayed underwater and was effective even in rough seas.

Coal carrier

By the 1870s, SS Great Britain was showing its age. It was sold and converted into a cargo ship, carrying coal from Wales to San Francisco. On the third trip it was forced to take refuge from bad weather in Port Stanley on the Falkland Islands, where it became a floating warehouse storing coal and wool until it was scuttled in 1937.

Cattle class

The poorest passengers travelled down below in dark, cramped, shared quarters known as steerage. They had to supply their own bedding, linen and soap and barely had room to get dressed. Their diet was limited and included salt meat, porridge and ship's biscuits - which were likely to be infested with weevils.

THE *Anatomy* of

ELLIS ISLAND PASSENGER

NEW YORK, USA, 1892-1925

INSPECTION CARD

CLEARED TO ENTER

Each immigrant was given a Certificate of Inspection Card, which indicated what medical and legal inspections they had passed during their voyage and at the Ellis Island Immigration Station. They were given strict instructions to keep the document on them at all times to avoid being quarantined.

CHALK MARKINGS

X MARKS INSANITY

If a passenger was considered to be a risk to public health, their clothing would be marked with a letter indicating their condition, with an 'X' signifying insanity and a 'P' indicating pulmonary problems. They were then sent for further examination and either treated or sent back home.

BLANKETS

LEFT IN THE COLD

First and second class passengers were often processed onboard the ship, and so could leave as soon as it docked, but third class passengers had to wait hours or sometimes days in the freezing cold for a ferryboat to take them to the Ellis Island Immigration Station.

BELONGINGS

BAGGAGE CLAIM

As they docked at Ellis Island, passengers struggled off the ships with trunks and sacks stuffed full of their belongings, as they could only take what they could carry. They then had to leave their possessions in the Station's Baggage Room while they underwent inspection.

CHILD

FAMILIES REUNITED

Over 12 million immigrants arrived in America during the late 19th and early 20th century, with the majority hoping to escape the poverty and religious intolerance they faced in eastern and southern Europe. Typically, the men would make the journey first, getting everything set up before the arrival of their wives and children.

HEAD LICE

PASS IT ON

The cramped conditions of the steamships meant that diseases and head lice spread easily among the passengers. On Ellis Island, doctors conducted 'six-second physicals' as people queued, looking for signs of illness such as itching, shortness of breath or red eyes.

ID TAG

YOU'RE ON THE LIST

Upon arriving at the Immigration Station, an ID tag was attached to each immigrant's clothing. This featured a number indicating where their name and details could be found on the ship's manifest, enabling inspectors to easily identify and group the new arrivals as they passed through.





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Day in the life

A VOORTREKKER

THE LONG AND VIOLENT GREAT TREK OF AFRICA'S DUTCH-SPEAKING COLONISTS SOUTHERN AFRICA, 1835-1846

The Dutch first established a colony at Africa's Cape of Good Hope in 1652, but when the British took control in 1814, their way of life began to change. In rebellion, many decided to leave the Cape and travel inland to establish a new settlement independent of British rule. Thousands of these Voortrekkers, most of whom were pastoral farmers called trekboers, packed up their belongings and ventured north on what is now known as the Great Trek. However, it was far from an easy journey, and resulted in many violent conflicts with the indigenous people of Africa they encountered along the way.

GET DRESSED

The traditional dress of the Voortrekker included a short dopper coat buttoned from top to bottom, a bonnet called a kappie, and handmade leather thong shoes called riempieskoene. Those prepared for battle would also carry a muzzle-loading rifle, a 20-centimetre-long knife and a powder horn containing gunpowder. A bandolier containing bullets would be strapped to their belt.

LOAD THE WAGON

Each wagon had a load capacity of a ton, and would be packed with clothes, furniture, family heirlooms, farming equipment, coffee, sugar and weapons. Cages of chickens hung underneath, and 16 oxen pulled from the front. The wagons moved at walking pace, and when travelling downhill the back wheels were replaced with heavy branches that acted as a brake.

NEGOTIATE A DEAL

As much of the Southern African interior was already inhabited by native tribes, the Voortrekkers met some resistance. In 1838, trek leader Piet Retief negotiated a deal with Zulu king Dingane, offering to recover his rustled cattle in exchange for some land, but was later betrayed, leading to several bloody battles with the Zulu warriors.



South Africa's Voortrekker monument is located in Pretoria, which is named after the Voortrekker leader Andries Pretorius





The Weenen Massacre of Voortrekkers by the Zulu in 1838

PREPARE FOR BATTLE

For protection in battle, 40 or more wagons were arranged in a square or circle called a laager, with the draught pole of one pushed under the other. The spaces between the wheels were filled with thorn branches, which the Voortrekkers could hide behind and fire through when the enemy approached. Extra wagons in the centre of the laager were used as a hospital.

OPEN FIRE

The rifles, called sanna, used by the Voortrekkers were quite complicated to load, and so the entire family was often drafted in to help. While aiming and firing at the enemy with one gun, the trekker's wife or children would be loading up another. They would often saw into the bullets to make them split and fly in different directions.

CATCH MALARIA

As well as resistance from native tribes, the Voortrekkers also had to contend with the perils of the native wildlife. Their journey involved passing through the tsetse fly belt, plagued with malaria-carrying insects. One group of trekkers, led by Louis Tregardt, made it all the way to Delagoa Bay, then succumbed to malaria and died one by one.

SING PSALMS

The Voortrekkers had a strong Calvinist faith, but when they set off on the Great Trek, no Dutch Reformed Church minister was willing to go with them. The church disapproved somewhat of the emigration, believing that it would lead to 'godlessness and a decline of civilisation'. As a result, they relied on missionaries and non-ordained ministers to lead Sunday services and the singing of psalms each evening.

Merge ON

When it was time to continue on their journey, the Voortrekkers would load up their wagons and round up their thousands of cattle, horses, sheep and goats, which could take several hours. They would also take with them any young African children they had captured in battle, and keep them as slaves to help with farming.



Voortrekkers are the direct ancestors of the Afrikaners of modern-day South Africa

How to BUILD A VIKING SETTLEMENT

THESE FIERCE NORTHMEN WERE SKILLED SETTLERS AS WELL AS WARRIORS EUROPE, 8-11TH CENTURY

The Viking Age was a time of great upheaval in Medieval Europe. Raiders from the North threatened to overwhelm parts of England and France, with attacks reaching as far as the Mediterranean. Although the Vikings had primarily come to plunder, they also looked to settle in these new lands that provided them with fertile soil for their crops. Well-known cities like Dublin, York and Reykjavík were founded by Vikings and began life as small settlements, expanding over time to become thriving communities and centres of trade and commerce throughout the region.

Military force

To make your mark on the new land you will need a large force, around 60 longships should do.

Slaves

Slavery will only start to diminish in the British Isles after 1066 and is very lucrative for the Vikings.

Longboat

The backbone of your expeditionary force, a longboat's ability to travel inland via rivers will be extremely useful.

Farming

Farmland in Scandinavia is often of poorer quality than that found in the rest of Europe. Make sure to plant to harvest crops to feed your people.

Bribery

Native chiefs take to paying off Viking war-bands to avoid violence; the money will come in useful when it comes to building a new town.



WHAT YOU'LL NEED...



01 ASSEMBLE YOUR ARMY

Founding a settlement in a foreign country is going to take a lot of manpower. The larger the fleet you can gather, the more men you have to take and secure the settlement. Having your ships nearby also gives you access to water-bound trade and raw materials, should you need to use them for construction.

02 SCOUTING YOUR LOCATION

Some locations are better than others, so to assess whether a region is worth occupying, it is a good idea to raid along the coast and scout the lie of the land. As some settlements began as base camps to raid further inland, try looking for locations that have been settled for many years; an old Roman town would be ideal.

How not to... found a settlement

In the 18th century, empire building was in full swing. Major world powers were jostling for control and influence in places like the New World, trying to stamp their authority on unspoiled land. Scotland, being a small country cut off geographically from the rest of Europe, decided that it too would found a colony and become a world player. Panama was chosen as the location and the settlement was to offer an overland route between the Atlantic and

Pacific oceans. The colony, called Caledonia, was doomed from the start, beset by poor planning and bickering leaders. Many economic factors sealed its fate but the killing blow would be a Spanish siege which saw the settlement abandoned by 1700. An estimated 25 per cent of the country's income was tied up in the Darien Scheme, and its failure was seen as a major factor in the Acts of Union of 1707, when Scotland ceased to be an independent nation.



03 LAY THE FOUNDATIONS

To settle land you'll need to establish a more permanent base at the coast. Building a longphort, or 'ship camp' is a good place to start. By dragging your ships ashore and using them to build outer defences for a camp, you can create a base camp for further raiding or to act as a kernel for a more permanent settlement.

04 RAID, RAID, RAID

It's probably no shock that the local population isn't going to take very kindly to you and your people's intrusion, so organising some raids to harry and harass them is a good idea. Churches can offer wealth and riches, whereas farmland can take care of sustenance while your own crops start to take root.



05 PROSPER

The lifeblood for a settlement is trade, and you should ensure your town becomes central to the region. While furs, wool and other commodities are available, a less salubrious business in the form of slaving offers better returns. These networks stretch all over Europe and reach as far as the Eastern Roman Empire.

06 SURVIVE

With the settlement founded and making money, the last task is to ensure your new home's survival. In this turbulent and violent time, founding a royal dynasty can help to ease the succession of future rulers. You must always be ready to fight for your new home, as rival factions or bands of native warriors are always looking to take what they can.

4 FAMOUS... VIKING SETTLEMENTS



DUBLIN IRELAND, 841

Founded as a Viking camp in 841, Dublin grew to become a major Irish settlement, with a reputation for a large slave market.



YORK ENGLAND, 9TH CENTURY

One of the most famous Viking settlements, it is thought York may have been settled since the Mesolithic era.



HEDEBY GERMANY, 8TH CENTURY

A town built at a vital trade nexus; Hedeby became the centre of commerce in the region until it was abandoned after 1066.



REYKJAVIK ICELAND, C.870

Originally founded by Norwegians, Reykjavik was a small farming town that became the centre for Icelandic nationalism.

5 shocking facts about...

WHITE AUSTRALIA POLICY

AUSTRALIA, 1901-73



AT A GLANCE

The 'White Australia policy' is the name given to the various immigration laws initiated by the Australian government that favoured European applicants. Fuelled by racist ideas, they were designed to exclude non-white applicants, particularly Asians, from entering the country for fear that they would steal the jobs of skilled, white labourers.

01 It started with a gold rush

During the gold rushes of the late 1800s, many non-white migrants arrived in Australia, and soon began competing with white business owners. This caused tensions, particularly as they were willing to work for lower wages, which led to each colony establishing its own migration policies, sometimes excluding anyone of non-British descent.

02 Entry tests were made to be impossible

The 1901 Immigration Restriction Act gave immigration officers the power to make non-white migrants complete a 50-word dictation test, which would be given in a European language. If someone passed, they could be made to take it again in a number of different European languages until they failed.

03 Any 'undesirables' were deported

In addition to making entry into the country extremely difficult, the Immigration Restriction Act also meant that any non-white people who had come to Australia prior to the law being introduced were also required to sit the dictation test. If they failed, they were considered to be 'undesirable' and therefore deported.

04 Families were separated

Many non-white refugees entered Australia during World War II, but while most left voluntarily when the conflict ended, some had married Australians and wanted to stay. The country's immigration policy meant that these Japanese war brides were deported, but in 1949 the decision was made to allow them to return.

05 'Poms' were more than welcome

Towards the end of World War II, Australia was underpopulated and economically vulnerable, so the government developed a new 'Populate or Perish' policy. This included the 'Ten Pound Pom' scheme, which encouraged people from Britain and northern Europe to emigrate by charging them only £10 for a ticket.



VOYAGE INTO THE UNEXPECTED

BRUNEL'S
SS GREAT

BRITAIN

BRISTOL'S No
ATTRACTION **1**
— TripAdvisor 2016-17 —

ssgreatbritain.org

Hall of Fame

INCREDIBLE IMMIGRANTS

Whether escaping persecution or searching for opportunities, these figures all moved to new lands and found success in their new homes

ALBERT EINSTEIN GERMAN/AMERICAN 1879-1955

Albert Einstein held three different citizenships throughout his lifetime. He was born into a secular Jewish family in Germany and attended school in Munich, but at age 17 renounced his German citizenship to avoid military service. For the next four years he studied in Switzerland and became a Swiss citizen in 1901. There he developed his theory of general relativity and won the Nobel Prize for Physics, before becoming a professor in Berlin. When the Nazis seized power, he fled to the United States to escape persecution, and in 1940 became an American citizen.

"Should my theory prove untrue, France will say that I am a German and Germany will declare that I am a Jew"

Albert Einstein

Before moving to the United States, Einstein was a refugee in England, receiving armed protection for speaking out against the Nazis

Einstein fled Germany after the Nazis barred Jews from working as professors



MADELEINE ALBRIGHT CZECH/AMERICAN 1937-PRESENT

America's first female secretary of state was born Marie Jana Korbel in Czechoslovakia, but as a toddler she and her family had to flee their homeland when the Nazis invaded.

They sought refuge in England for the duration of World War II, but shortly after returning to Czechoslovakia, fled again when the communists came to power. This time they travelled to the United States, where Korbel studied politics and raised a family with publishing heir Joseph Albright. After working for the National Security Council she was appointed Ambassador to the United Nations by President Clinton, who later nominated her to become the highest ranking woman in the US government.

As an adult, Madeleine Albright learnt that her parents were originally Jewish and three grandparents had died in concentration camps

HANS HOLBEIN GERMAN/ENGLISH 1497-1543

After studying under his father, artist Hans Holbein the Elder, in Augsburg, Germany, Hans Holbein the Younger moved to Basle, Switzerland to paint. He travelled Europe producing frescos and woodcuts, but the spread of the Reformation meant that demand for his religious artwork was in decline. In 1526, he travelled to England in search of work, and secured a job as King Henry VIII's personal artist, producing some of the most famous paintings of the 16th century.



Holbein permanently relocated to England in 1532, leaving his wife and children in Basle



William introduced Norman culture and language to England

WILLIAM I NORMAN/ENGLISH 1028-1087

William the Conqueror, the first Norman king of England, took his new home by force, but it wasn't meant to be that way. The ruthless duke of Normandy claimed that he was promised the English crown by his distant cousin, Edward the Confessor, who was the childless king of England at the time. However, when Edward died, Earl Harold Godwinson was announced as his heir. William was furious that Harold, a man who had sworn to help him secure the throne, had betrayed him, and so travelled to England to confront him. Harold was killed in the battle, and William finally became an English king.

MOTHER TERESA

ALBANIAN/INDIAN 1910-1997

"By blood, I am Albanian. By citizenship, an Indian. By faith, I am a Catholic nun. As to my calling, I belong to the world." These were the words of Mother Teresa herself, summing up her life of charity. Born to Albanian parents, she spent the first 18 years of her life in Uskup, in the Ottoman Empire, which is now Skopje, in the Republic of Macedonia. After joining the Sisters of Loreto in Ireland, she travelled to India to become a teacher, and it was there that she experienced her calling to devote herself to helping the poor of Calcutta.



Born Agnes Gonxha Bojaxhiu, Mother Teresa was given Indian citizenship in 1951

CAROLINE HERSCHEL

GERMAN/ENGLISH 1750-1848

Caroline and her brother, William Herschel, originally moved from Germany to England to work as musicians, but when William's interest in astronomy led him to discover Uranus, he was appointed court astronomer for King George III. Caroline then began assisting him with his calculations, and soon developed an interest in the night sky. Through her own observations, she identified several previously undiscovered stars and comets, many of which were named after her, and received the Royal Astronomical Society's gold medal.



Caroline Herschel returned to Germany for the last 26 years of her life



Levi Strauss & Co was the first company to manufacture blue jeans

LEVI STRAUSS

BAVARIAN/AMERICAN 1829-1902

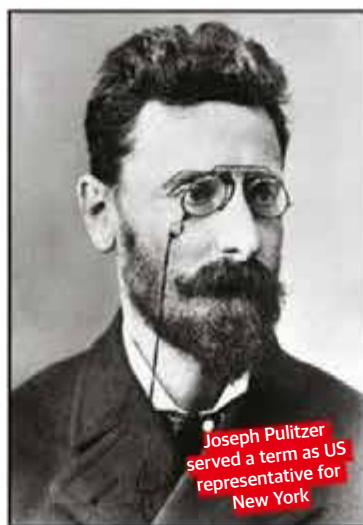
After experiencing Jewish persecution in their native Bavaria, Strauss and his family moved to the United States where Levi set up his own wholesale dry-good business. In 1872, one of his customers, a Latvian-born tailor called Jacob Davis, pitched him an idea for a new way of making trousers, using rivets at points of strain to make them more durable. Levi agreed to be his business partner, and the pair got a patent for their 'waist overalls', now known as blue jeans.

Mother Teresa was canonised as a saint in 2016, and is just one of only eight people to be made an honorary citizen of the United States

JOSEPH PULITZER

HUNGARIAN/AMERICAN 1847-1911

Determined to become a soldier, 17-year-old Joseph Pulitzer tried to join the Austrian and British Army but was rejected due to his poor eyesight. Eventually he was enlisted into the US Union Army as a substitute for a draftee, and moved to America. There he began his career as



Joseph Pulitzer served a term as US representative for New York

an enterprising journalist and successful publisher, transforming the newspaper industry. He left some of his fortune to Columbia University, which established the Pulitzer Prize for artistic and journalistic achievement in his honour.



Brin is now president of Google's parent company, Alphabet Inc, and worth more than \$38 billion

SERGEY BRIN

RUSSIAN/AMERICAN 1973-N/A

Now the richest immigrant in the United States, Sergey Brin fled the Soviet Union with his family when he was just six years old in order to escape Jewish persecution. He then followed in his father's footsteps by studying maths, before moving to Stanford University to complete a PhD in computer science. There he met Larry Page, and as a research project, the pair began creating a search engine that ranked web pages by popularity - all from their dormitory. Originally called BackRub, they soon changed the name to Google, inspired by the mathematical term 'googol', and registered the domain in 1997. By 2004, they were both billionaires.

SONIA GANDHI

ITALIAN/INDIAN 1946-N/A

After marrying fellow student Rajiv Gandhi while studying in England, Sonia Gandhi lived a quiet life in India with her aircraft pilot husband and two children. However, when he became prime minister in 1984, she was thrust into the limelight. Tragically, Rajiv was assassinated in 1991, and Sonia was invited to take up his post as president of the Indian National Congress. At first she declined, but when the party began to struggle, she finally accepted the role.

"I am an Indian. In fact, I feel like a foreigner when I go abroad"

Sonia Gandhi



Sonia's right to become India's prime minister has been challenged due to her foreign origins



BLACKBEARD KING OF THE PIRATES

The truth behind the myth 🏴‍☠️ Terror tactics 🏴‍☠️ Living by the Pirate Code 🏴‍☠️ His final fight

Written by Frances White

Blackbeard was outnumbered, and massively so. His reckless nature had taken over, and it had sent him leaping into the jaws of death. He had boarded a rival sloop with a handful of his loyal men, but now he could see none of them past the surrounding enemies. The deck on which he stood was slick

with blood, some of it his rivals', and some of it his own. He had already been hacked, slashed and shot, but still, somehow, he was standing. He was a terrifying vision on the deck, his wounds bleeding out and the smoke of gunpowder all about him as he heaved and gasped for breath. The men were hesitant, but confident in their numbers. They finally had him, trapped like a wild animal, the figure of legend and terror of the seas - not a demon, but a real man who could bleed and die.

The name Blackbeard holds great power, even today. The most feared and reviled pirate of his time, to us he is a figure obscured by myth and legend. To find out information about his early life is like chasing a shadow, a dark, long cloaked figure glimpsed in a gloomy alley, who vanishes through the fog. We are not even completely sure what his true name was. Most sources claim it was some variation of Edward Teach or Edward Thatch, while another claims it was Drummond, but none of these are verified, and are never likely to be confirmed. There's plenty that could be true of the mysterious figure: he might have been born

in Bristol, perhaps he was wealthy; both educated guesses based on what we know of the era, but neither are fact. How can one man hide so well from history? How can a man, with a name so well known, hide from his past even today? The reason is simple: this was Blackbeard's plan all along. Like many pirates, he did not wish to darken his

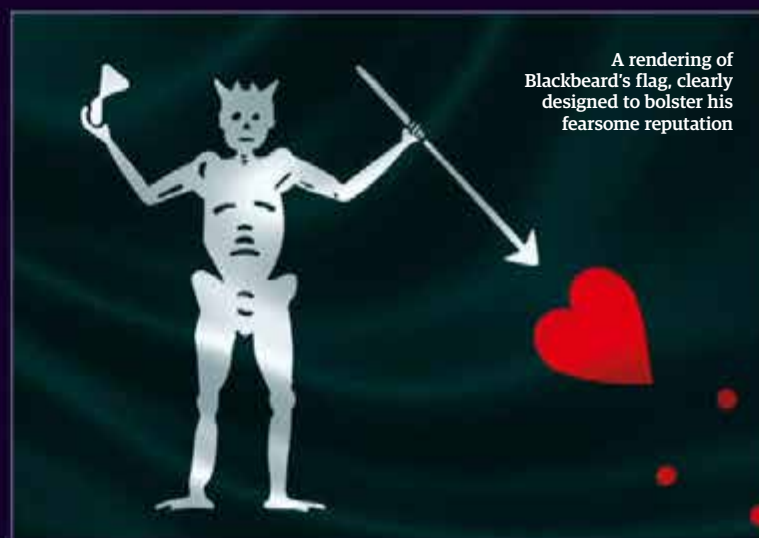
family name, but even more so, what he desired was to create a fearsome image of himself. A backstory can serve to humanise a person, steeping them in reality, but he didn't wish to be part of reality at all, instead painting himself as a figure

of legend, of horror and of the unknown.

Blackbeard appears, seemingly out of nowhere around 1717, after likely serving as a privateer during Queen Anne's War. At this point, he moved to New Providence in the Bahamas, and there joined the crew of a certain Captain Benjamin Hornigold, a privateer-turned-pirate who had made an infamous name for himself. Hornigold, not an easy man to impress by any means, must have seen some potential in

Blackbeard as he put him in charge of a sloop he had captured. Now with Blackbeard in command of his own vessel and small crew, the two men set out pillaging and plundering many ships they encountered, their fearsome reputation was formed in this short period. However, Hornigold was a man of morals, he wished to only attack enemy ships, and was against plundering British-flag vessels, despite the valuable booty they carried. His crew found this frustrating and after a vote, he was demoted from Captain. As second-in-command, this left Blackbeard in charge of one of the most feared forces of the seas. He, unlike Hornigold, had no objections to looting any ships, even those of his own countrymen. Hornigold soon retired, though would later begin a career as a pirate hunter, and Blackbeard found himself

**"HE IS A FIGURE
OBSCURED
BY MYTH"**



A rendering of Blackbeard's flag, clearly designed to bolster his fearsome reputation

The Pirate Code of Conduct

Some of the most absurd and unexpected rules crews lived by

- * *Every man will be given his fair share of the booty. However, if they steal from the company they will be marooned. If they steal from another pirate their ears and nose will be cut, then they will be set ashore in a place where he is sure to encounter hardships.*
- * *No gambling on board, this includes playing cards or dice for money.*
- * *All lights out by 8pm, if anyone wants to drink after this time, they must do so on the open deck without a light.*
- * *No child or woman allowed on board. If any man smuggles a woman on board he will be put to death.*
- * *No fighting on board. Quarrels will be ended on shore. The men will face back to back, pace a set distance, turn and fire, he who draws first blood wins.*
- * *Any man who runs away or keeps a secret from the company will be marooned with a bottle of gunpowder, a bottle of water, a gun and one bullet.*
- * *Any man that tries to rape a woman will be killed.*
- * *The first man to see a vessel will be given the best pistol aboard.*
- * *Every man shall have an equal vote in affairs. He shall also have an equal share of the provisions.*
- * *If you lose a limb or become a cripple you will be given 800 pieces of eight from the common stock. The same applies to lesser injuries where you will receive less.*
- * *The musicians are allowed the Sabbath day off as rest.*



in charge of two powerful ships, a loyal crew, and with an insatiable appetite for riches and adventure.

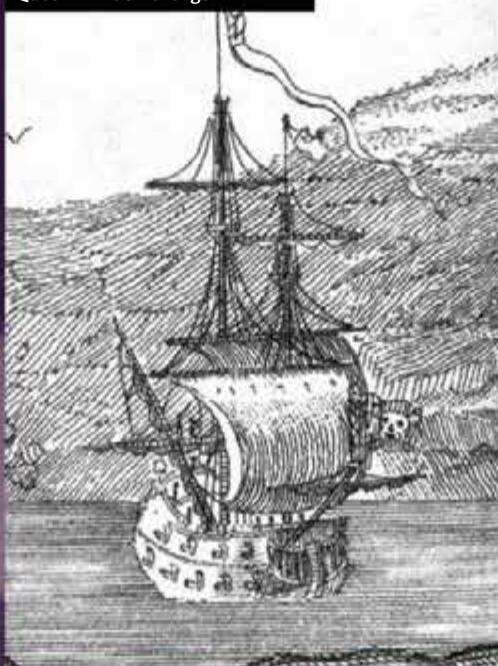
Later that year, Blackbeard and his crew sailed the Eastern Caribbean and encountered a slave ship known as La Concorde. This huge French vessel would make a fine prize and, after Blackbeard fired two broadsides into it, the ship and crew surrendered. Blackbeard quickly made the vessel his flagship and fitted it out with 40 guns. He named it Queen Anne's Revenge, perhaps in reference to the war he had most likely fought in (although, as with many of Blackbeard's decisions, we cannot be certain of the true reasoning). One thing was for sure, though: he understood the importance of size and power on the ocean. The 40 guns were not necessarily for the purpose of devastating enemy ships, for he wouldn't wish to sink them, but instead, to present a formidable, unbeatable sight to deter any rivals that dare contemplate facing him.

Blackbeard understood the incredible power of image very well, and he extended this not only to his ship, but to himself, too. He desired to strike fear into the heart of his enemies before even raising a weapon. As a naturally tall, broad man, he used this to his advantage, dressing himself in knee-high boots, dark clothing and a flaming red coat. To make himself even more imposing, he wore a wide hat. His famous thick black beard was long and braided with ribbons. He was later described as "such a figure that imagination cannot form an idea of a fury from Hell to look more frightful." It must have been terrifying for those sailors, hearing tales of such a beast, to see his standard flying on an approaching ship, and the monster himself standing on deck, leering down upon them. It is no wonder that on many



Despite taking down the most feared pirate of the seas, Maynard faded into obscurity

Blackbeard's formidable flagship; Queen Anne's Revenge



One of Blackbeard's most valuable 'commodities' were slaves, and it's unlikely any of these men were treated as true 'crew members'

occasions, ships simply surrendered to him without a fight.

There were, in fact, far more fearsome pirates than Blackbeard, and some of these were vicious men who killed without mercy and committed horrific atrocities to the men they captured. Blackbeard never murdered or harmed anyone he held captive. All things considered, he was actually a more reasonable man than most of his rivals, but his fearsome appearance and reputation preceded him, and that was just how he liked it. Blackbeard's actions actually prove how clever and cunning he could be. While sailing with Hornigold, Blackbeard met Stede Bonnet. This wealthy landowner spontaneously decided to become a pirate and had purchased his own ship to embark on adventures. Blackbeard quickly realised how unsatisfied his 70-man crew was with his weak command so, simply by asking nicely, he took control of his ship and crew. Bonnet, meanwhile, was kept along as a sort of upper-class traveller. Blackbeard understood the power the combined force would offer, and also the advantage of having a wealthy, naïve gentleman as a 'friend.'

It was a most unlikely partnership but it worked, and Blackbeard with Bonnet in tow cruised the Caribbean, plundering and claiming whatever booty they could find, growing their fleet rapidly. Blackbeard looted his way from St Vincent to St Lucia, Nevis to Antigua and eventually ended up in Puerto Rico. Few ships dared to put up a fight or say no, partly due to the growing size of Blackbeard's fleet, and mostly because of his grisly reputation. In 1718 the pirates had reached the Turneffe Islands in the Bay of Honduras, where they spotted the Jamaican sloop Adventure. The captain, David Herriot was 'invited' to join Blackbeard's fleet and he accepted, likely terrified

"HE DESIRED TO STRIKE FEAR INTO HIS ENEMIES BEFORE EVEN RAISING A WEAPON"

LIFE IN THE PIRATE REPUBLIC

The island that become the closest thing many pirates had to a home

Even pillaging lawless pirates occasionally needed somewhere to moor their ships and enjoy some time on land. Often wanted, hunted and chased, few could stick around towns for very long, so the pirates created their own haven. The largely uninhabited island of Nassau in the Bahamas was chosen as the so-called 'Pirate Republic.' The island was conveniently located near the merchant shipping lanes, providing rich pickings of any trade ships coming out of the port. With a constant flow of fresh water, food and weapons, Nassau attracted pirates from all over the world and its numbers swelled to as many as 2,000 people.

As can be expected when lawless men gather, Nassau was a den of drinking, gambling and women. However, there was some law and order. The infamous 'flying gang' set up a system of government on the island and appointed themselves as governors. The gang consisted of many men who on the seas considered

themselves rivals including Benjamin Hornigold, Calico Jack, Charles Vane and Blackbeard himself. Teach recognised the advantages of the base and used it to repair his ships, and

even ordered his crew to build a tower on the highest point of the island. If any ships came within range, it meant he could be the first to harass and intimidate them.

Blackbeard was appointed 'Magistrate' of the Pirate Republic by his fellow pirates who respected him greatly





of doing anything to dismay the intimidating pirates, and another formidable ship was added to the flotilla. The journey of terror and plunder continued as they sailed the Bay of Honduras where Blackbeard added a further four sloops and one ship to his fleet. He, at this point, likely felt indestructible. He took advantage of every ship and every opportunity he could, he knew a reputation was a powerful thing and in the space of a year, he had built one that few would manage to craft in a lifetime. This reputation was necessary, for Blackbeard was building up to his biggest and most brazen move yet.

In May 1718 the fearsome fleet of Queen Anne's Revenge and three other sloops arrived off the port of Charles Town, South Carolina. This wasn't

a sail-by looting, or a quick getaway mission; instead, Blackbeard blockaded the entire port. The town had no guard ship and Blackbeard took advantage of this, stopping ships from attempting to leave or enter the port with his huge firepower and towering reputation. Over just six days, nine ships were stopped and ransacked for their valuables. It was like shooting fish in a barrel.

One of these ships was the Crowley and Blackbeard decided to take all the crew and passengers as prisoners. This seemed a brazen and cruel act, but Blackbeard had requested medicine for his

"THE JOURNEY OF TERROR CONTINUED"

crew. He demanded a chest of it be exchanged for the hostages and threatened that if he was not to receive it in the allotted time, all the prisoners would be killed, their heads sent to the governor and the captured ships burnt. When the government failed to pay up the goods in the allotted time, Blackbeard sailed his ships closer to the city and the citizens flew into a panic. Believing their town was going to be attacked, they

began looting and fleeing. Blackbeard hadn't done anything other than move his ships, but his name was so infamous that they truly believed he was capable of horrific deeds. The government quickly

paid up and the prisoners were returned, sans their valuables and fine clothes, of course. Yet again Blackbeard had won, and he had done it all without spilling a drop of blood.

If Blackbeard wasn't already

notorious, his bold actions around the harbour of Charles Town did the trick. Blackbeard had the daring and gall to take on the most risky of adventures, and commit acts of piracy that other captains would never dream of. The elaborate show with the hostages, and the massive amount of goods he managed to plunder while near Charles Town filled the newspapers and turned him into a legend.

Soon after these events, Blackbeard sailed his fleet near the Topsail Inlet in North Carolina. While doing so, Queen Anne's Revenge was grounded and abandoned on a sandbar. This may have been an accident, and it's possible that Blackbeard was only planning to careen his ship to scrape the hulls. But, there is a chance it was intentional. His company was growing to a huge, practically unmanageable size, and he wished to 'shave off the fat' and, like always, he had a cunning plan to do so.

The news of a royal pardon travelled quickly among the pirates. It had been announced that a pardon would be given to all pirates who

Blackbeard has appeared as a character in at least six films, and even more television shows and novels



HALL OF INFAMY

How Blackbeard compared to his fellow sea-faring scoundrels

BLACKBEARD



£10 million
40
300 men

STEDE BONNET



£3.6 million
10
70 men

BLACK SAM



£100 million
28
145 men

THOMAS TEW



£82 million
8
50 men



Estimated wealth



Number of guns on flagship



Crew



Fleet

CALICO JACK



£1.2 million
Unknown
75 men

EDWARD ENGLAND



£6 million
34
2 ships

CHARLES VANE



£1.8 million
12
3 ships

BLACK BART

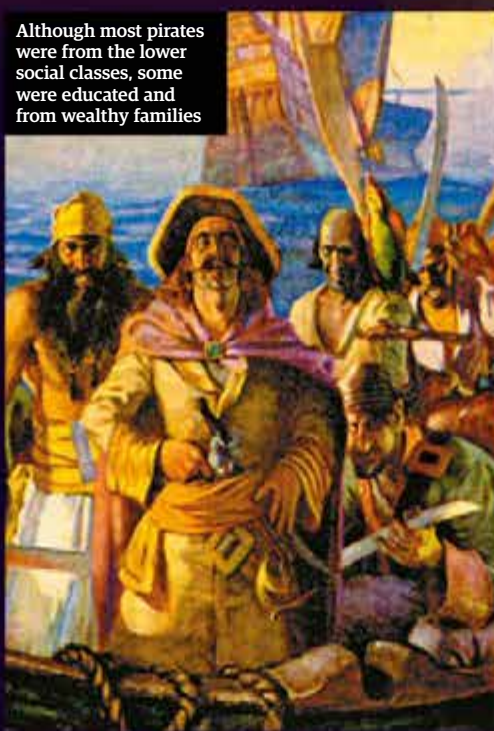


£25 million
52
4 ships

surrendered before 5 September 1718, but this only applied to crimes committed before 5 January. This would obviously leave Blackbeard at risk due to his actions in Charles Town. He had a trump card however - a gullible comrade who he could send away to obtain the pardon and see what happened. Nudged by Blackbeard, Stede Bonnet obviously left the company in a small sailing boat to try his luck. He obtained his pardon and sailed back to Blackbeard to collect his ship and crew, for he intended to work for commissions now. However, the pirate Captain intended not only use Bonnet as a trump card, but also as his final scam. He stripped Bonnet's ship, *Revenge*, of all its valuables and provisions and marooned the crew. Bonnet finally realised what Blackbeard was: not a friend, but a double-crossing snake. Hell-bent on revenge he reclaimed his crew and returned to piracy in a furious quest to hunt the betrayer. By then, Blackbeard had long disappeared into the fog and Bonnet and his crew were captured and hung for their crimes.

It was no wonder Bonnet couldn't find the notorious pirate who cruelly deceived him. Blackbeard had returned to Bath town, sold all his newly obtained booty, bought a house and

Although most pirates were from the lower social classes, some were educated and from wealthy families



Blackbeard



A replica of a Royal Navy frigate, similar to the one captained by Maynard

obtained a pardon. For all intents and purposes, this was the perfect chance for Teach to finally settle down, pardoned of his crimes and with more than enough money to retire on. There are even accounts of him marrying the daughter of a wealthy plantation owner. Blackbeard, however, was not the type who could settle down. His various misdemeanours at sea had not really been for wealth or a comfortable life, but more for the thrill of adventure and of conquest. Such a rush definitely could not be found settling down for a quiet life on land.

Blackbeard was given permission to become a privateer, but the lure of valuable merchant ships became too much to resist, and he returned to plundering and piracy. He did attempt to be covert about it, for example subduing the crew of two French ships, transferring them all to one and pretending he had 'stumbled' across the 'deserted' ship. For a while the governor believed him, sharing the cargo with Blackbeard. However, suspicions were raised when infamous pirates such as Charles Vane and Calico Jack stopped by his base on Ocracoke Island for impromptu gatherings.

News of the pirate parties spread quickly and the governor of Virginia, Alexander Spotswood, became worried about the dangerous crew drawing closer to his land. He issued a proclamation for all former pirates to give themselves up to the authorities, and forbade them from travelling in groups larger than three. Blackbeard, of course, declined the offer, and Spotswood decided to take a more direct approach. After obtaining information about Blackbeard's location he sent Lieutenant Robert Maynard with two heavily armed ships and 57 men after the bearded scoundrel.

Just as expected, Maynard found the pirates anchored at Ocracoke Island, so he stopped any ships from entering the inlet and positioned lookouts to prevent Blackbeard escaping. The pirate commander, meanwhile, was completely unaware of Maynard's presence. He was in the midst of hosting a party, and had no more than 25 sailors aboard with him. As soon as morning broke the two sloops moved and Blackbeard spotted them immediately, he cut the anchor, unfurled the sails and fired his guns on the two ships. It



This coloured engraving shows Blackbeard waiting on the shore, while his men are busy behind him, loading the supplies for future pirate adventures into rowboats

The art of intimidation

How Blackbeard transformed himself into a demon of the seas

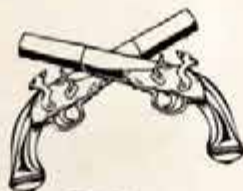
☐ The smoking man

Blackbeard inserted slow burning canon fuses under his hat and lit them as he approached enemies. This would encircle him in smoke, and create a terrifying image.



☐ Weaponry

To strike fear into his enemies, Blackbeard wore three pairs of cocked and primed pistols strapped to his chest over a sling. He also carried at least two cutlasses, and sometimes a further four pistols under his belt.



☐ A gruesome flag

The flag was the first thing that approaching ships would look for, and Blackbeard's incorporated all the morbid symbols it could fit. It showed a skeleton with horns, a spear and bleeding heart.



☐ A well-equipped ship

Although he rarely needed to use the weaponry on his flagship, Queen Anne's Revenge, Blackbeard ensured it was equipped to frighten any ship into surrendering; he installed at least 40 cannons to the beastly vessel.



☐ A rude welcome

In order to 'persuade' his targets into surrendering, Blackbeard loaded his cannons with shrapnel which would burst open and spray the deck with nails, lead and glass. He also fired two-headed cannonballs that would spin through the air and destroy masts.



"BLACKBEARD WORE THREE SETS OF PISTOLS"

was a devastating blow that cost Maynard a huge number of his forces and one of the sloops was so badly damaged that it was out of commission for the rest of the battle.

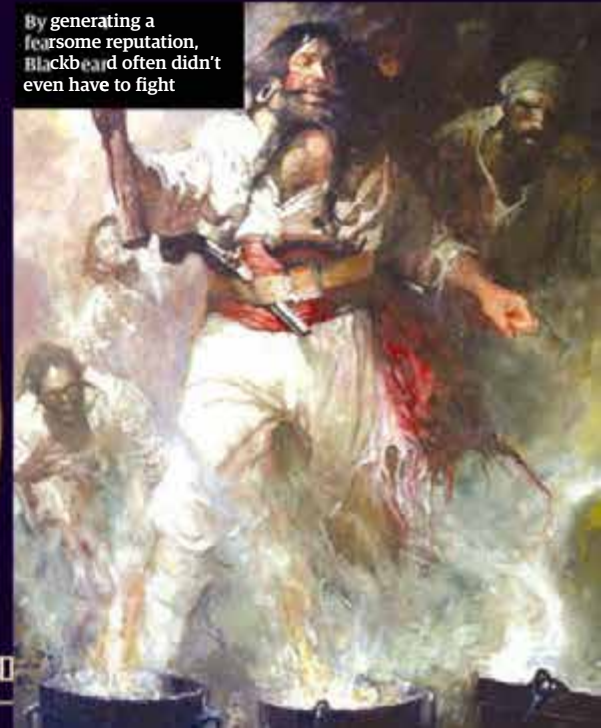
After a flurry of fires, both remaining ships were grounded and the vessels drew close to each other. Seeing an opportunity, and knowing time was of the essence, Blackbeard ordered his men aboard Maynard's virtually empty ship amid a hail of smoke and gunpowder. As he raced towards Maynard, huddled with a small group at the stern, the hold of the ship opened and a hoard of men burst out. Unbeknown to Blackbeard, they had been hiding there and the surprise attack dealt as much devastation as Maynard intended.

Unprepared for the flurry of men, Blackbeard's pirates desperately fought under their leader's rallying cry, but it was not enough. The pirates were pushed back to the bow and separated from their fearless leader. Alone, surrounded and exposed, Blackbeard fired his flintlock at Maynard who then did the same. They fought cutlass to sword, and the mighty pirate managed to break the Lieutenant's blade. As Maynard hurried to load

There is a legend that Blackbeard's headless corpse swam around his ship five times



By generating a fearsome reputation, Blackbeard often didn't even have to fight



A PIRATE WITH A HEART OF GOLD?

Historian and author, Colin Woodard, examines the truth behind Blackbeard's bloodthirsty reputation



What evidence do we have that Blackbeard wasn't as bad as history makes him out?

Most of what we know about Blackbeard comes from the point of view of his victims, and yet in the entire historical record there is no evidence of him killing anyone prior to his final, fatal battle with the Royal Navy at Ocracoke Island. He did his best to cultivate a terrifying image and reputation, which encouraged his foes to surrender without a fight, reducing the risks to his crew, their potential booty, and the crewmen of the other vessel, who were a potential source of recruits.

How did Blackbeard's actions compare to other pirates of the era?

Many of the pirates of this particular gang – those who operated in the Caribbean and the Thirteen Colonies between 1713 and 1719 – were also judicious in their use of force, particularly when compared to the pirates who came before and later and to the legal authorities. Blackbeard was particularly so, but not unique. There were exceptions, however: violent men like Charles Vane.

Why do you believe Blackbeard is regarded as the most notorious of all pirates today?

Because he cultivated a fearsome reputation, captured a frigate-sized vessel, and died in a cinematic shipboard sword fight with sailors of the Royal Navy. This captured the attention of the public at the time, including the author of the *General History Of The Pyrates* [now thought to

be Captain Charles Johnson], who devoted a sensational chapter of his bestselling 1724 book to Blackbeard, cementing his place in history and pop culture.

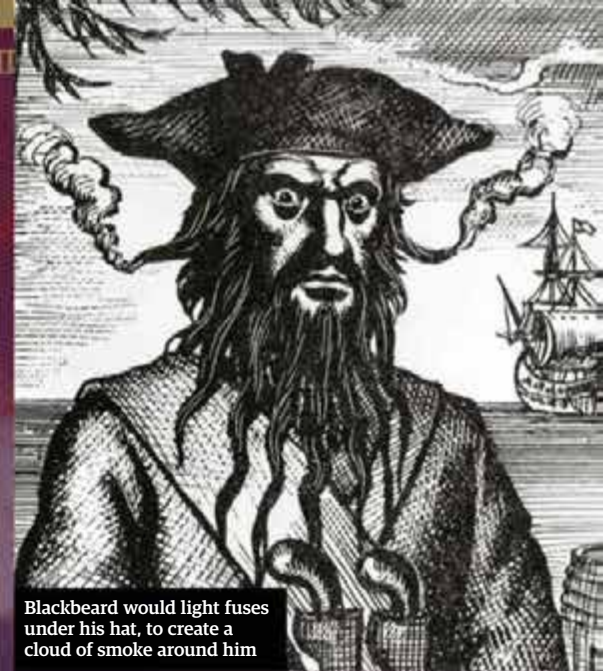
Was it Blackbeard who encouraged this reputation, or was it the authorities?

The authorities did their best to demonise the Golden Age pirates, including Blackbeard. Tellingly, members of the non-elite majority of Anglo-American society took the pirates' point of view, which is why the governor of Virginia had to keep his plans to move against the pirates a secret; why the government of South Carolina was nearly overthrown during an insurrection to free the captive pirate Stede Bonnet; and why the *General History* – broadly sympathetic to the pirates – sold so well.



An engraving of Blackbeard from the *General History Of The Pyrates*

Blackbeard entertains guests on his ship



Blackbeard would light fuses under his hat, to create a cloud of smoke around him

his gun, Blackbeard leapt forward to cut him down, but before he could do so, one of Maynard's men slashed him across the neck. Staggering and losing blood, the crew leapt on him as one, attacking and finally draining the life out of the infamous demon of the seas.

When they examined Blackbeard's body, they reportedly discovered it had been shot five times, and slashed around 20. His head was separated from his body, and his corpse thrown into the water, as if the men were terrified it would spring up and attack them again. His head, meanwhile, was hung from the bowsprit of Maynard's sloop. Most of Blackbeard's remaining crew joined their leader in death – hung and left to rot on gibbets in Gallows Road.

Blackbeard was far from the most successful pirates of his era; many others retired with fabulous riches, and there are numerous accounts of men who captured far more ships than he did. He left no hordes of treasure and his piracy 'career' lasted only a couple of years, but despite this he is, arguably, the most famous pirate captain, not only of the Caribbean, but of all time. His story and image have graced the pages of many books and he has featured in countless movies and stories. Tales of his lingering ghost, seeking out his lost head, have also been told for years, and there is a legend that his skull is now used as a drinking chalice. He did not gain this notoriety through success or riches, but by what he represented: the insatiable lust for adventure, the audacious nature to fight against insurmountable odds, and a mysterious, feared spectre of a devilish man. We do not know his true name, and we do not know his full story, but we do know what Blackbeard symbolises, even today, and that is the daring and intrepid spirit of piracy.

"HIS HEAD WAS SEPARATED FROM HIS BODY, HIS CORPSE THROWN INTO THE WATER"



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Through History

SPECTACLES

From disability aid to nerdy icon and fashion accessory, spectacles have been protecting our eyes and correcting our vision for more than 700 years

Written by Neil Handley of The College of Optometrists



RIVET SPECTACLES

1352

The first painting to depict someone wearing spectacles is a fresco by Tommaso da Modena in the Chapter House attached to the Basilica San Nicolo in Treviso, Italy. This dates from about 70 years after spectacles are believed to have been invented by crystal workers in nearby Venice. Cardinal Hugo of Provence is shown at his writing desk wearing a pair of spectacles that appear to stay in place on his nose without any additional support. The Cardinal died in the 1260s, and so definitely never actually wore glasses!

The first spectacles were fashioned by riveting two magnifying glasses together at the handle



Samuel Pepys ordered leather spectacles with green-tinted lenses for their soothing properties

BOW SPECTACLES

16TH-17TH CENTURY

Spectacles continued to be a hand-held device for the next four centuries. You gripped the arched 'bow' bridge and raised your arm for as long as needed before putting the spectacles away again into their case. Despite being made in large numbers, common frame materials were wood, bone or leather, which is why so few historic examples have survived.

BIFOCAL SPECTACLES

1760s

Split lenses were probably first used by artists. They enabled the wearer to both look into the distance and read things close up, without the bother of switching to another pair of spectacles. Benjamin Franklin started wearing a pair of bifocals and later his name became associated with their use. He wore them at the dinner table in France to lip-read the French ladies, and claimed his spectacles helped him to understand a foreign language.



The introduction of sides allowed spectacles to be worn continuously. From then onwards they became 'eyewear'

WIG SPECTACLES

1720s

Spectacle users made various attempts to keep their glasses in place, using rods and cords, or by suspending them from the brim of a hat. The first spectacle sides appear to have been advertised for sale as 'temple spectacles' by the London optician Edward Scarlett, circa 1727. These were also known as wig spectacles because they were worn together with the powdered wigs fashionable at that time. The wigs covered your ears so the spectacle sides could not yet hook over them, but had to grip the temple instead. The ends were padded so they did not damage the wig.

Hans Lipperhey

1570-1619, DUTCH

In 1608 this spectacle maker placed two spectacle lenses, one convex and one concave, at either end of a tube, and so invented the refracting telescope. Though others have claimed that invention, it was Lipperhey's experiments that caught the attention of Galileo, leading to his telescopic discoveries in astronomy.

Split lenses can still be obtained today, and are now termed 'executive' bifocals, conjuring up images of business people





Spectacles for use when travelling or operating machinery were the ancestors of today's protective goggles

GONDOLA GLASSES 1780s

Large, tinted glasses were worn by Venetians while riding in a gondola to counteract the Sun's intense glare reflected from the canal water. They were made popular by the playwright and theatre manager Carlo Goldoni (1707-93), master of the Commedia dell'Arte, and represent perhaps the first-ever example of celebrity-endorsed eyewear. They were an early form of sunglasses, but as the lenses could not filter out ultraviolet light, their long-term use could actually have been harmful. The holes around the rims were for stitched silk eyeshades that have not survived the ravages of time.

SUNGLASSES 1890s

Sunglasses, as we would understand them, are a surprisingly late development. They were first used by American baseball players to help them see the ball, and by Italian mountain guides hired to lead alpine expeditions. Some of the people who hired these guides thought the glasses were a good idea, while others still made do with broad-brimmed hats or veils. Many of today's best-known brands are still manufactured in the region of the Dolomite Mountains. In the 1920s, Hollywood stars wore sunglasses indoors to combat the bright studio lights, but filmgoers thought it was because of the Californian sunshine.



1970s' sunglasses were huge. They were as much for hiding behind as showing off

Eyewear could be coordinated with hairstyles or earrings to provide an overall 'look'

CAT-EYE FRAMES 1950s

There was no real difference between men's and women's spectacles before the 1930s. Thereafter the idea of styled eyewear arose, with some styles being promoted as 'clothing for the eyes' or 'jewellery for the face'. Catwalk models at first refused to pose for the cameras in glasses, but eventually the classic 1950s cat-eye shape became an accepted glamour symbol. Its upswept style accentuated the eyes and provided a natural point that could be adorned with gemstones or engraved motifs. 20th-century designs seem to disprove Dorothy Parker's famous claim in 1925 that "men seldom make passes at girls who wear glasses."

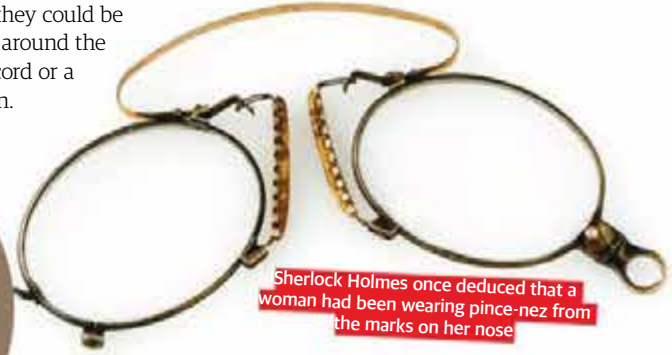


Elsa Schiaparelli 1890-1973, ITALIAN

Founder of the famous fashion house in 1927, Schiaparelli was contracted by American Optical Company in 1952 to create the first 'designer' eyewear range. Christian Dior of Paris was the first major fashion house to issue its own designer-branded range, manufactured under licence in Austria in 1966.

PINCE-NEZ 1880s

Superficially, pince-nez may resemble some of the older nose spectacles. The difference was that they now had a spring clip that literally pinched the nose, sometimes so hard that they left indentations on the skin, or caused their wearer some trouble breathing. The US president Teddy Roosevelt was a noted fan of pince-nez and ordered many pairs. When not in use they could be suspended around the neck on a cord or a watch chain.



Sherlock Holmes once deduced that a woman had been wearing pince-nez from the marks on her nose

John Marshall 1659-1723, ENGLISH

This London-based spectacle maker devised a grinding machine that could manufacture batches of lenses to a specified focal length. For the very first time, spectacles could be produced to a standard power. In 1693, the machine was endorsed by the Royal Society, and spectacles came to be regarded as scientific objects.

AVIATOR FRAMES 1930s

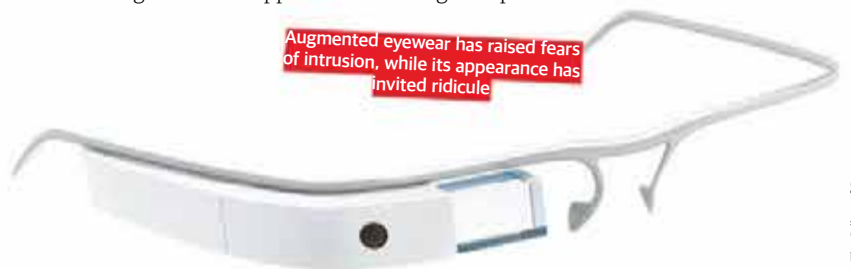
The first branded sunglasses, 'Ray-Ban', were introduced by Bausch + Lomb in 1937, as a development from their glasses for military pilots. These became the frame of choice of the US Navy's 'Top Gun' pilots. American Optical developed the Flight Goggle-58 ('Original Pilot Sunglass') in 1958, which was favoured by the Army. Neil Armstrong even took a pair to the Moon. With its brow-bar bridge it is recognisable as the ancestor of today's aviator styles, and accentuates the upper browline, giving a firm masculine appearance that denotes action and adventure.



The aviator is perhaps the most enduring frame style of the past century

WEARABLE TECHNOLOGY 2013

Spectacle-mounted video cameras that are internet-enabled allow the wearer to upload what they see to the web, so that others may see a reflection of the world through them. The first limited-release examples of Google Glass were distributed to winners of a competition, but following widespread criticism, the company ceased production after less than two years. Future versions are likely to be indistinguishable in appearance from regular spectacles.



Augmented eyewear has raised fears of intrusion, while its appearance has invited ridicule

Joan of Arc



Joan of Arc's determination and dedication to her beliefs have made her a famous figure in history

Behind the legend JOAN of ARC

The humble peasant girl who helped defeat the English is remembered as a saint and a liberator, but she was also a pawn in a powerful political game

Written by Nick Soldinger

On 12 February 1429, at the height of the Hundred Years' War, a convoy carrying supplies to the English army besieging the city of Orléans is attacked. As a 4,000-strong force loyal to France's heir apparent, the Dauphin, gathers about them, the English draw their wagons into a defensive formation and fire wave after wave of arrows into the advancing French. By the time the fighting is done more than 400 Frenchmen and their Scottish allies are dead. The English have lost just four fighters. The massacre is to prove the lowest point in the Dauphin's struggle to claim the French throne.

Just three weeks later, though, a small band of armed men, dusty from the road, arrive at the Dauphin's great castle at Chinon, 160 kilometres to the south. Among them is a 17-year-old peasant girl with short hair, who is dressed as a man. The girl says she has a message for the Dauphin and when she is granted an audience with the would-be king, she declares to his court that she has come to save France by seeing him crowned king, and that she was sent by God to do so. Her name, she says, is Joan of Arc.

To understand the remarkable story of one of history's most iconic figures, it's first necessary

to grasp just how different to our modern day the world was that she lived in. Medieval Europe's landscape was dominated by castles, cathedrals and walled cities. A lack of understanding of the natural world ensured witches, demons and angels were considered real, while religious thinkers dominated philosophically and ideologically.

It was also a world where misogyny was rife, with women facing restrictions on what property they could own, and what the law and custom would permit them to do with their lives. Even wearing men's clothing woman was deemed an abomination to God. And yet it was in men's

Joan of Arc

clothes that Joan stood when she addressed the Dauphin on 6 March 1429. She had adopted the attire a few weeks earlier when she begun her journey to Chinon from the town of Vaucouleurs. The captain of the garrison there had given them to her - as well as a horse and an armed escort - as a way of disguising her identity, because Joan's fame as a potential prophet was already starting to spread among people.

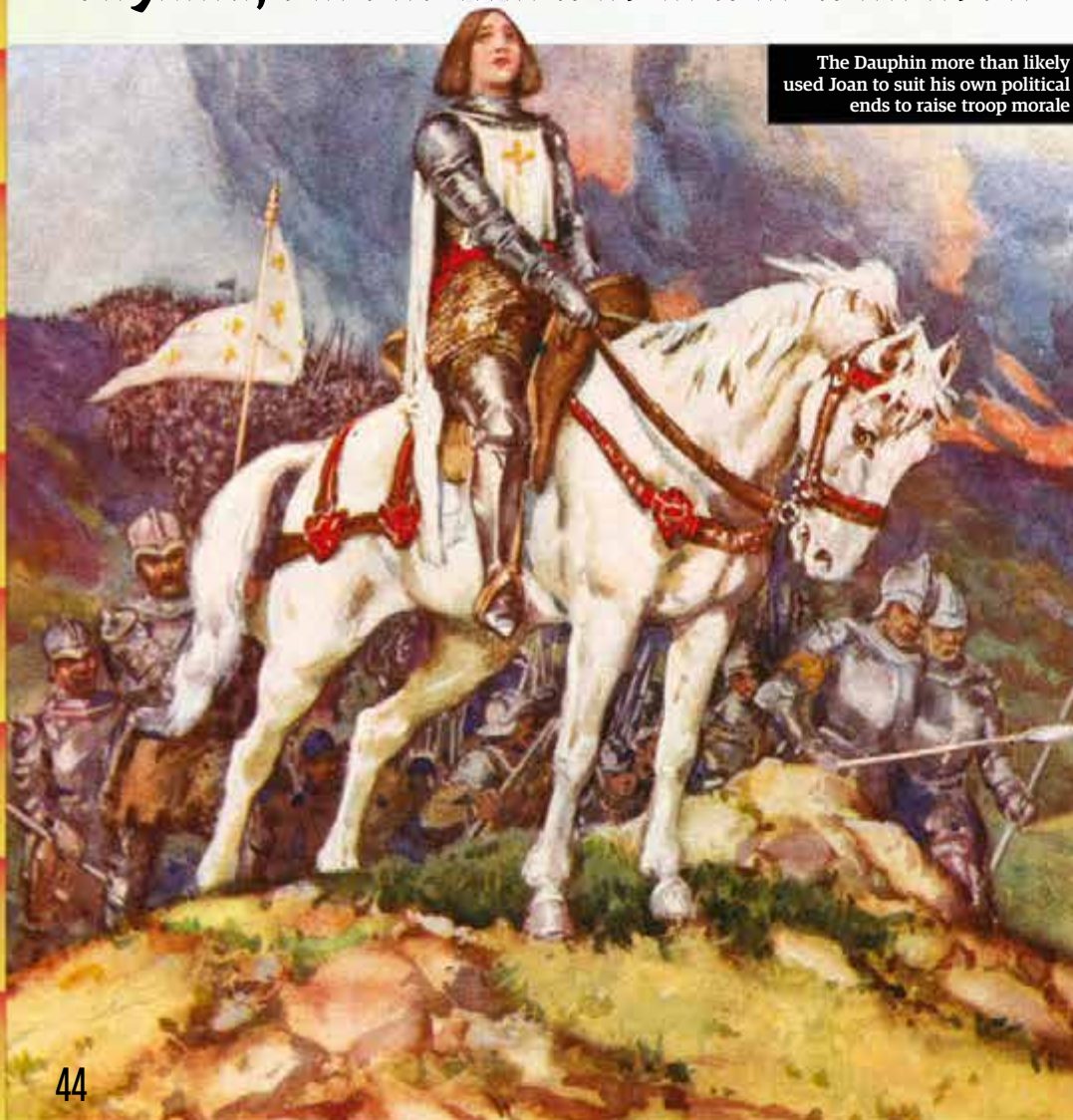
Joan had been born in the village of Domrémy, 250 kilometres north east of Paris, in 1412. France, by then, was a land that had been ripped apart by war for generations. Since 1337, England and France had been struggling for control of the country, and in 1415, when Joan was just three years old, the French had suffered a crushing defeat against the English under Henry V at Agincourt.

Despite heavily outnumbering the English that day, the French army was defeated when its aristocratic knights - bogged down on a rain-sodden battlefield - were famously annihilated by Henry's archers. Not that it was explained in those terms at the time, of course. This was Medieval Europe, where the will of God was intrinsically

linked to daily life, and while the English king claimed divine intervention had helped him to such an improbable victory, the French put their defeat down to the notion that God was punishing them. France wasn't a country just at war with England, but one that was at war with itself. Its king, Charles VI, having descended into madness, was incapable of ruling. This had created a power vacuum that spawned two factions - the Burgundians and the loyalist Armagnacs - to wrestle for control of the country.

So bitter was the rivalry that five years after Agincourt, the Burgundians' leader, the Duke of Burgundy, even sided with the occupying English, signing a pact with them against the Armagnacs, now led by Charles VI's son and heir apparent, the Dauphin. And so the civil war raged on. For eight years, endless defeats followed for the Armagnacs until the Dauphin's army had been forced back to the River Loire, which runs almost the entire width of France. The country was now essentially cut in two with the English and the Burgundians controlling the north - including Paris - and the Armagnacs controlling the south.

"France wasn't a country just at war with England, but one that was at war with itself"



The Dauphin more than likely used Joan to suit his own political ends to raise troop morale



A painting depicting the capture of Joan

By the time she was 13, Joan's village in north east France was on the front line and Domrémy became an Armagnac outpost surrounded by Burgundian and English territory. The village was subjected to raids and attacks and Joan's family briefly became refugees. It's perhaps no surprise, then, that during this deeply unsettling time a potentially traumatised Joan claims to have first heard voices in her head. Modern psychologists have put this down to a possible personality disorder, but because of the Christian beliefs of her time, Joan reasoned that these voices must be messages from God. Such beliefs were not unusual in 15th century Europe. Indeed, during her lifetime there would have been dozens of so-called religious visionaries in France who also claimed to have a direct line to God Almighty. It's what the voices were telling Joan to do, however, that made her stand out. "Go to the Dauphin," they repeated, "he will give you an army to lead, and with it you will drive the English from France's shores!"

Logically, this seemed like an impossible proposition. Joan was young, poor and female, and unsurprisingly initial attempts to speak to the Dauphin were brushed aside. But after the massacre in February 1429, it seems he was desperate enough to try anything, and sent for her. Like all rulers of his day, the Dauphin firmly believed that his authority had been bestowed on him by God, and that he had a duty to search for God's will in the world around him - even if it was to come to him via the ravings of a peasant girl. He may also have sensed there was a potential propaganda coup in the offing.

Guilty of heresy

Politically motivated, Joan's trial was deliberately rigged to publicly discredit her and destroy morale

The trial against Joan began in early 1431. She was brought daily from her cell to face the scrutiny of a panel of 43 judges, including her main interrogator, a Burgundian bishop called Pierre Cauchon. On day four, Joan revealed that when she first heard heavenly voices aged 13, she had also been visited by St Michael and a host of angels in a vision.

It was exactly the kind of tale that Couchon wanted to hear. The church accepted that angels and demons could be seen by humans, but had concluded that as angels were heavenly they possessed few physical characteristics. It was a theosophical technicality of which the uneducated Joan was unaware. At Couchon's prompting, she went on to reveal her vision in ever-greater detail in an attempt to convince the panel she was telling the truth. Her fate was finally sealed, though, when Joan claimed to have experienced a second vision when

she first visited the Dauphin and asked for an army to lead. Again, there were a host of angels, one of whom carried a golden crown – a symbol from God, she said, that France's kingdom must be restored to its rightful heir.

Couchon concluded that as no angel could physically carry anything, the visions had to be the devil's work. Joan was convicted of heresy and told to confess her sins or be burned alive. A terrified Joan made her mark on a confession she couldn't read and her sentence was commuted to life imprisonment.

Four days later, however, she withdrew her confession, and revealed to Couchon as she did that the angel who carried the crown was, in fact, herself. "I'd promised my King that if he put me to work," she explained, "that I would see him crowned." It wasn't enough to save her. Joan was burned to death on 30 May 1431. She was thought to be 19 years old.



A special suit of armour was commissioned for Joan by the French King

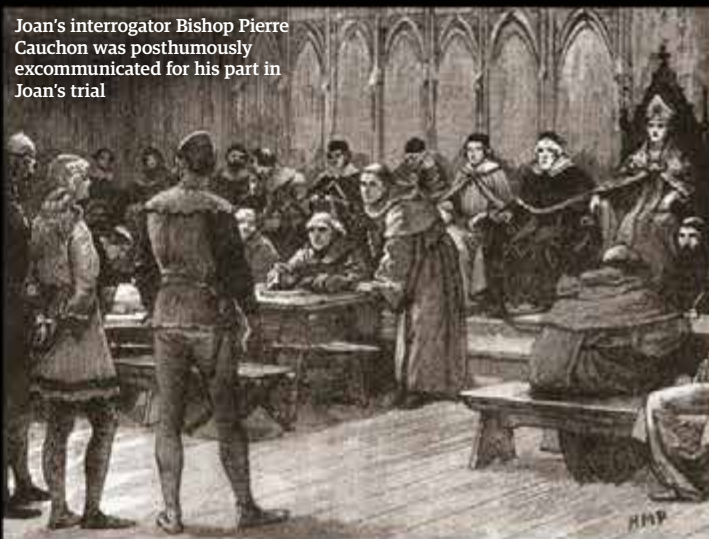
Joan was questioned for three weeks by the best theologians at the Dauphin's disposal. These men believed that God hadn't made women to be soldiers, let alone lead armies, but she was so utterly convinced of what the voices had apparently told her, that they couldn't decide whether she was indeed a messenger from God, or an envoy of the devil. Hedging their bets, they declared that, to be sure, they needed 'a sign' – by which they meant a get-out-clause. And when they asked Joan how she intended to see the Dauphin crowned in Reims Cathedral, given that besieged Orléans stood in the way, they got what they were after. "Give me an army," Joan confidently told them, "and I'll break the siege myself."

The theologians now told the Dauphin that Joan was convincing, she might even be the real deal, but to be sure she should accompany an army to Orléans. If they managed to break the siege then it would indeed seem she was a divine messenger, a sign that things would start going the Dauphin's way. If they failed, then they'd know that Joan had, in fact, been sent by the devil. So the Dauphin rolled the dice. He ordered a special suit of armour to be made for her tiny frame, along with a white silk banner depicting Christ flanked by angels. This would help make her stand out in battle for all to see. If God really was backing his cause, the Dauphin wanted both his enemies and his supporters to know about it.

Joan reached Orléans on 29 April 1429. The English army there wasn't large enough to effectively surround the city, and Joan managed to slip through their lines into the citadel on the



Joan's childhood was spent on the family's farm, in a rural village



Joan's interrogator Bishop Pierre Cauchon was posthumously excommunicated for his part in Joan's trial



Joan asked the clergy to hold a crucifix in front of her while she was put to death

Women warriors through history

Female fighters have featured on battlefields since antiquity - they just don't get much press

Artemisia of Caria

The queen of Halicarnassus (modern-day Turkey) in the 5th century BCE commanded five ships at the Battle of Artemisium, fighting as an ally of Persian King Xerxes. Greek historian Herodotus wrote of her heroics, ruthlessness and strategic brilliance.



Queen Boudicca

Around 60 CE Boudicca, queen of the Iceni tribe in Britain, led a revolt against the Romans after legionaries had raped her daughters. Leading a huge army, she reportedly slaughtered 80,000 people in vengeance.



Zenobia

The warrior queen of the Palmyrene Empire ruled in Syria from 250-275. She led armies against the Roman Empire under Claudius II and was so successful in battle that she effectively chased Roman legions right out of Asia Minor.



Nakano Takeko

As a female Samurai warrior, Nakano fought gallantly in the Boshin Conflict, a Japanese civil war (1868-9). She was sadly killed in battle as she led an all-female unit against the Imperial Japanese army.



Lydia Litoyak

The World War II Soviet fighter ace was the first woman to shoot down an enemy plane. Lydia also holds the record for most kills by a female pilot (12 solo, four shared).



The Siege of Orléans is remembered as the turning point in the Dauphin's war against the English

“After seven months of siege Joan had freed Orléans in four days. This was proof, her supporters claimed, that God had sent her”

eastern side. Locals greeted her as a saviour. By 4 May, with the rest of her army having now also reached the city, the battle for Orléans could begin.

Early in the afternoon, Joan rode at the sharp end of an attack against the weak English position to the east. It was soon overwhelmed after fierce fighting. That night Joan, who couldn't write, dictated a letter demanding that the English surrender and warned them of dire consequences if they refused. The letter was attached to an arrow and fired into the English lines. Her warning, however, was not to be heeded and so the killing continued for the next four days.

At that time, Orléans was a walled city that stood on the north side of the Loire River, and was connected to the south side by a bridge, at the end of which was a fortified gatehouse called the Tourelles. During the earliest days of the siege the English had taken it, but had failed to seize the north side of the bridge - hence the stalemate. If the French could retake the Tourelles, however, they would break the English siege. So at dawn on 7 May, Joan rallied the demoralised French troops again and urged them to follow her. The city's gates were once again opened and she galloped forward on horseback, waving her white banner. Inspired by her reckless courage, the army chased after her. Several hours later, the French troops had fought their way around to the Tourelles.

As missiles and arrows rained down from the walls of this fortress, ladders were brought forward and Joan, still leading from the front, began to climb one until an arrow found its way through a weak spot in her armour. The arrow had apparently pierced her shoulder some 15 centimetres, and as she was carried from the battlefield many believed she had been mortally wounded. She hadn't, and after having her wounds dressed, Joan - high on religious fervour - was back in the fray. Her inspiring presence ensured that by sundown, the French had won a famous victory.

After seven months of siege Joan had freed Orléans in four days. This was proof, her supporters now claimed, that God had indeed sent her and news of her miraculous victory began to spread. Joan's conviction was now stronger than ever. Orléans had been her test and victory her sign. Now came her true purpose - to crown the Dauphin and drive the English out of France forever.

For centuries, French kings had been crowned in Reims Cathedral, which lay over 160 kilometres north of Orléans deep in English-held territory. Gathering around them the biggest army he could muster, the Dauphin now rode north with Joan at his side. Buoyed by their recent victory and the divine presence of Joan, now being called the Maid of Orléans, the Dauphin's troops swept north, defeating all who opposed them.

France during Joan's lifetime

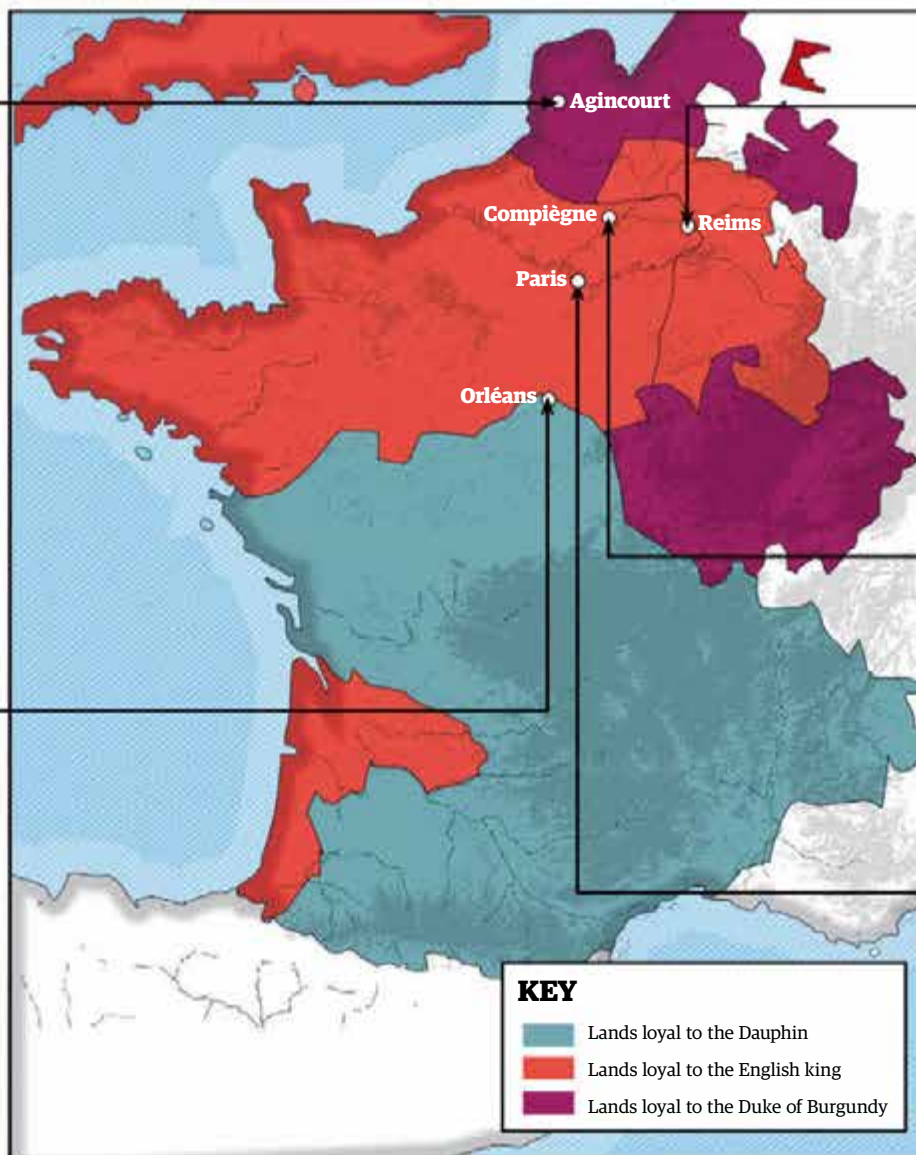
The victories and defeats Joan would have known

Battle of Agincourt 1415

Hugely significant victory for England's Henry V that sets the stage for the rest of the Hundred Year's War - which finally ends in 1453. The humiliating French defeat allows the English to dominate as France tears itself apart.

Siege of Orléans 1428-9

The turning point of the conflict for the Armagnac's cause. Joan of Arc's presence helps the French defeat the English, and lift the siege. The significance is to have a profound effect on French moral, though not the immediate political situation.



Capture of Reims 1429

Joan leads the Dauphin's army into the ancient city on 16 July. The following morning the heir apparent to the kingdom of France is crowned king, confirming his legitimacy to the French throne.

Siege of Compiègne

After a six-month truce, hostilities are renewed when the Armagnac town is attacked by the Duke of Normandy. Leading a small force to liberate it, Joan is again defeated in battle and captured. She is subsequently executed for heresy.

Siege of Paris 1430

Joan's disastrous attempt to seize the capital ends in defeat, with over 1,000 of the new king's soldiers killed and more than 500 wounded for zero gain. It marks the end of Joan's usefulness to the French crown.

KEY

- Lands loyal to the Dauphin
- Lands loyal to the English king
- Lands loyal to the Duke of Burgundy

An engraving showing Joan of Arc entering Orléans in 1429



This painting by George William Joy shows Joan asleep in prison, guarded by an angel



Joan's Legend

Four alternative takes on who and what the Maid of Orléans was

Joan was the Dauphin's half-sister

In 1819, French writer Pierre Caze claims that Joan was the illegitimate daughter of the Queen Isabeau of Bavaria (Charles VI's wife) and Duke Louis of Orléans. His basis for the accusation? A sword in the coat of arms the Dauphin grants her, which Caze calls the baton of bastardy.

Reality: It's an intriguing theory but highly improbable. Duke Louis died five years before Joan's supposed birth.

Did you know?

In 1456, three years after the war ended, Joan was absolved of her crimes in a retrial authorised by Pope Callixtus III



Relics of Joan survived

A charred bone fragment is displayed at the Joan of Arc museum in Chinon, which is claimed to have been rescued from Joan's execution pyre. A helmet, said to have been Joan's, can be seen at the Metropolitan Museum of Art in New York City.

Reality: There's no evidence to link the helmet to Joan while forensic analysis of the bone revealed it's from an Egyptian mummy!

Joan survived

Numerous imposters pretended to be Joan after she was executed. The most successful of these was a female adventurer and soldier called Claude des Armoises. She was so convincing that she even fooled Joan's brothers. She continued with the charade for years, accepting lavish gifts from admirers.

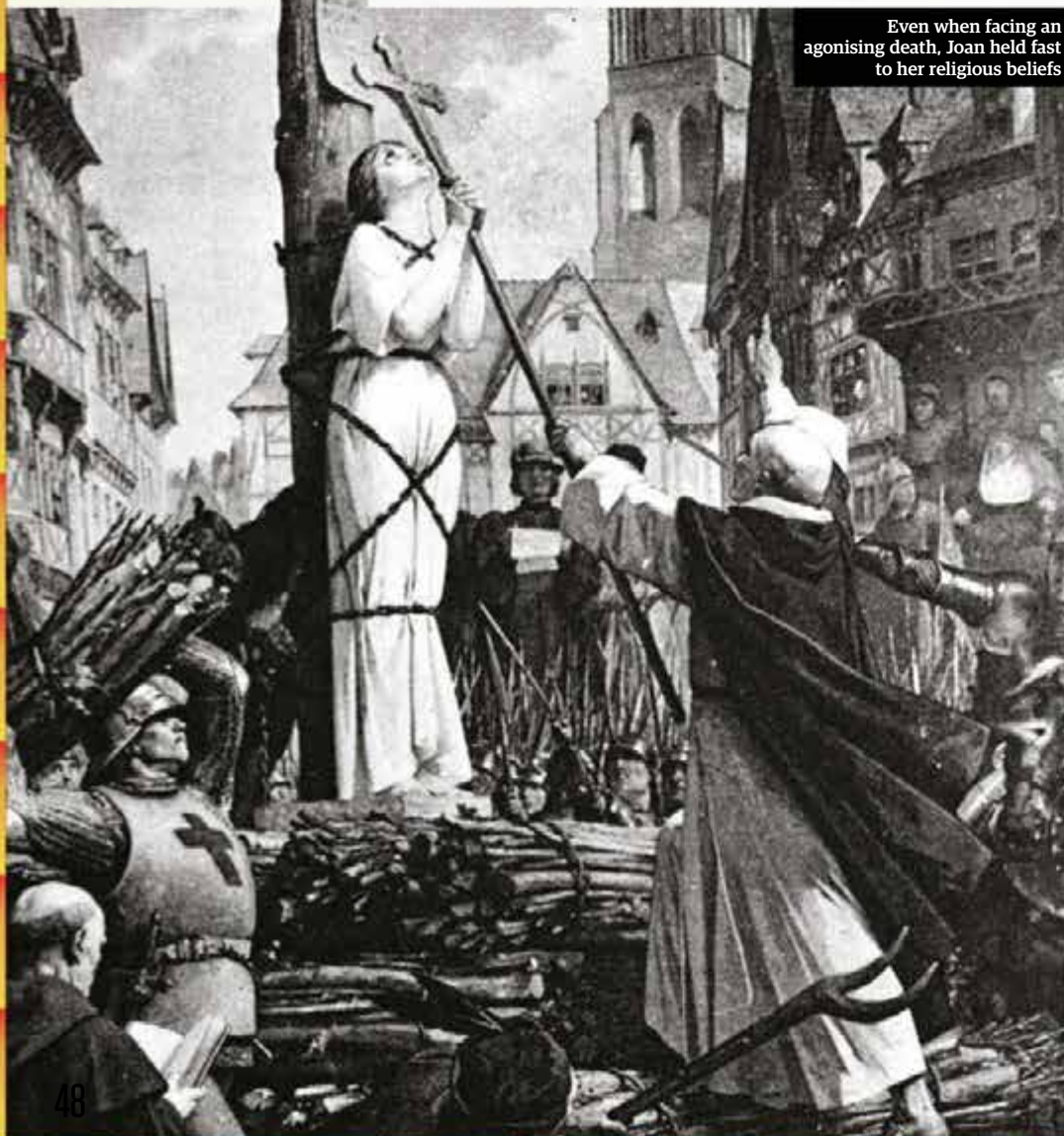
Reality: Charles VII dismissed Claudes as an imposter after meeting her in 1440.



Joan was a witch

As late as 1921, anthropologist Margaret Murray was arguing that the religious authorities had been correct in accusing Joan of witchcraft. She insisted Joan was the leader of a cult that worshipped the pagan huntress Diana, and challenged the Catholic Church's power.

Reality: All evidence suggests Joan's beliefs were fanatically Christian. Joan was elevated to sainthood a year before Murray published her theory.



Even when facing an agonising death, Joan held fast to her religious beliefs

Ordinarily a coronation took months of preparation but these were extraordinary days and time was precious. Swearing the Dauphin in as quickly as possible was a matter of urgent political expediency and, after his courtiers stayed up all night to make the necessary arrangements, the Dauphin was crowned the morning after he entered the city. Four months earlier, the Armagnac cause looked to be on the brink of collapse and yet now - thanks in no small part Joan - he had been crowned King Charles VII of France.

Joan's aim now was to unite the country under its new monarch but appeals to the Burgundians were rejected. They had sworn allegiance to the king of England, and so the civil war would continue alongside the struggle to force out the English occupiers. Joan hoped to deal both enemies a fatal blow by capturing the nation's capital. It turned out that the battle for Paris, however, would prove a far greater challenge than the liberation of Orléans had been.

Paris was the most fortified city in Western Europe. High walls with towers and a huge moat encircled it, while English and Burgundian troops defended its ramparts with cannons and archers. Then there were the locals to consider. Unlike the people of Orléans, Paris's 280,000-strong population were largely hostile to the Armagnac cause, and could not be expected to rise up from within. Joan, however, convinced that she was an agent of the Almighty refused to see - despite the extraordinary odds stacked against her - that attacking Paris was effectively a suicide mission. Symbolically, she picked 8 September - the holy feast day of the nativity of the virgin - as the date for the attack.

Joan the Maid

Historian Juliet Barker unravels how Joan was used and abused by the Kingdoms of England and France



How common was it for people in the Medieval period to claim they were in communication with God?

Joan of Arc came from a long line of allegedly holy women (they were usually women!) who claimed to have personally experienced divine revelation. The number of lay people

making such claims had been on the increase since the middle of the 14th century and they had to be taken seriously because they challenged the church's authority as the sole interpreter of God's word on Earth and stirred up popular unrest.

Joan was one of at least three female visionaries who had recently been brought before the king of France to deliver their divine messages to him; three of her own contemporaries would also be tried for heresy on the same grounds, two of them abjuring and one, like Joan, refusing to do so and being burned at the stake.

What made Joan stand out from the other self-confessed 'prophets', like William the Shepherd, of the time?

Joan had absolute faith in the divine origins of her mission and was utterly convinced that her voices were real, which made her a convincing, fearless and charismatic leadership figure, especially in a divided country which, until she arrived, had believed that God was on the side of the English. However, she also had powerful patrons at court (including Yolande of Aragon, the dauphin's mother-in-law) who helped to shape her into the image of the prophesied maid from Lorraine who would restore France to its former glory: they provided her with male armour and the alleged sword of Charlemagne's grandfather and persuaded the dauphin to accept her as the figurehead of a renewed attempt to regain his kingdom. Without their backing, as she would soon discover when she started to lose battles and became a liability, she was as ineffective as other popular visionaries and prophets.

What was the reaction to Joan's death?

We don't know how the ordinary soldiers she had led reacted but the dauphin, whom she had crowned Charles VII, never once intervened to save her or mentioned her again until it became imperative to get her condemnation as a heretic overturned 20 years later. Her former supporters among the court party simply found another supposed prophet, William the Shepherd, to replace her. Only in Orléans, the city she had helped to raise from English siege, was she remembered and celebrated with an annual festival in her honour for decades to come.

How responsible was Joan for the reigniting military fortunes of France?

As the prophesied Maid of Lorraine, Joan gave the armies hope. But the fact remains that, for the most part, she did this as a figurehead, rather than as a general. It was the experienced military commanders who actually won the battle of Patay and the Reims campaign; they excluded her from their decision-making and, when she tried to lay siege to Paris without their support, she failed. What is often forgotten is that the English would continue to rule most of northern France for another two decades after her death.



Juliet Barker has written extensively on the Hundred Years' War and the Medieval period, with titles including *Agincourt: The King, The Campaign, The Battle; Conquest: The English Kingdom of France 1417-1450* and *England, Arise: The People, The King And The Great Revolt of 1381*.



Joan faced up to misogyny and prejudice to lead the French to victory

"She was pulled from her horse... and soon found herself in the position of being the most valuable political prisoner in France"

Joan rode at the front of the assault, hurtling headlong into battle on her charger with her white silk banner fluttering for all to see. Meanwhile, the king's troops swarmed against Paris's walls as arrows, cannonballs and other missiles poured down on top of them from above. After hours of desperate attempts to breach the city's ramparts, Joan was once again wounded when a crossbow bolt ripped through her thigh. She was lucky. The man next to her bearing her standard was killed with an arrow to the face. Joan was carried from the battlefield, and the retreat sounded. Over 1,500 of the king's men had been killed or wounded in the doomed assault. Joan was keen to attack again in the morning, but the king, no doubt fearing that he might lose his entire army, forbade it.

The king decided that diplomacy, not military action, would be the way forward, and by the end of 1429 a six-month truce had been declared. Joan counselled against it, insisting that the armed struggle was God's will - an argument that got some of the king's courtiers whispering in his ear that Joan's determination to fight on was making her a liability. The king, it seemed, tended to agree and the no-longer useful Joan gradually fell out of favour with him.

When hostilities resumed in the spring 1430, the Duke of Burgundy attacked the Armagnac town of

Compiègne, north of Paris. Despite the fact she no longer had the clear support of the king, Joan rode to the town with a group of loyal followers intent on chasing off the Burgundians. They arrived on the night of 22 May, and the next morning Joan donned her armour for the last time. Mounting up and with her famous banner flying, she led her small group of fighters into battle, attacking Burgundy's troops camped outside the town's gates. But her force was hopelessly outnumbered and soon overwhelmed. As the Burgundian troops swarmed all around her, she was pulled from her horse by an archer, and soon found herself in the position of being the most valuable political prisoner in the whole of France.

Joan had once been used by the Armagnacs as a powerful propaganda tool to galvanise its demoralised army. After the debacle at the Battle of Paris, however, her usefulness to the king's cause had become questionable. With her capture by the English, she would now benefit the king's enemies who sought to exploit the 18-year-old peasant girl for their own ends. After all, if they could prove that Joan was a liar, or - even better - a heretic sent by Satan, they could drain the power surrounding the Maid of Orléans, and send the morale of the Armagnac armies plummeting back into the darkness and despair of the previous year.

Bluffer's Guide GREAT BRITAIN AND IRELAND, 1689-1746

The Jacobite Risings

Did you know?

Bonnie Prince Charlie pawned his mother's jewellery to pay for weapons and gunpowder for his 1745 invasion attempt

Timeline

13 FEBRUARY 1689



William of Orange and his wife, Mary, who is the eldest daughter of James II/VII, are jointly crowned, after arriving with an invasion force from Holland.

13 FEBRUARY 1692



The chief of Clan MacDonald is slow to pledge allegiance to King William. 38 MacDonalds are massacred at Glencoe by the loyalist Campbell clan.

27 AUGUST 1715



After George I takes the British throne in 1714, the Jacobite Earl of Mar forms an alliance of clans, and then captures the Highlands.

22 DECEMBER 1715



James Stuart, son of the deposed James II/VII, arrives from France, but his timid leadership doesn't inspire the Highlanders, so the uprising collapses.

Bluffer's Guide

THE JACOBITE RISINGS



What was it?

The Jacobite rebellions were a series of five uprisings over a period of almost 60 years. They attempted to restore the Stuart kings to the Scottish, Irish and English thrones, after the Hanoverian dynasty deposed them in 1688. The name 'Jacobite' comes from the Latin form of James, 'Jacobus'.

The first rising was in 1689 when 2,400 Highlanders killed 2,000 Williamite soldiers at the Battle of Killiecrankie. However, the Jacobite leader, Viscount Dundee, was himself killed during the battle's climax. In 1708 there was a much smaller rising against the recent Union of Scotland and England. Then several years later in 1715, George I became king, and 10,000 Jacobite Highlanders rose up against him. The 1719 rising was a diversionary tactic by Spain to keep Britain away from other conflicts in the Mediterranean. The most famous uprising, in 1745, was actually a damp squib. Bonnie Prince Charlie managed to rally an army of 5,000 reluctant Highlanders, but as he marched towards London, the expected support from the English never actually materialised, and he got no further than Derby.



Why did it happen?

When the Catholic King James II/VII had a son in 1688, it completely changed the line of succession so that his eldest, protestant daughter, Mary, was no longer the first in line to the throne. In order to avoid a Catholic dynasty, English protestant nobles invited Mary and her husband, William of Orange, to usurp the monarchy in what later became known as the Glorious Revolution. However, William wasn't all that popular in Scotland, especially in the Highlands. The 1707 Acts of Union, joining England and Scotland, initially created economic depression in Scotland. Meanwhile, William had allowed James to escape with his entire court to France, and James spent his time in exile, continually agitating for revolution back at home. The Catholic monarchies in France, Spain and Rome often regarded the grievances of the Stuarts as an embarrassment, but they were often prepared to support them in order to destabilise their enemy, England.



Who was involved?

John Graham, Viscount Dundee

21 July 1648-27 July 1689

Scottish commander who led the Jacobites to victory at the Battle of Killiecrankie, but was killed during the final charge.



Charles Edward Stuart

31 December 1720-31 January 1788

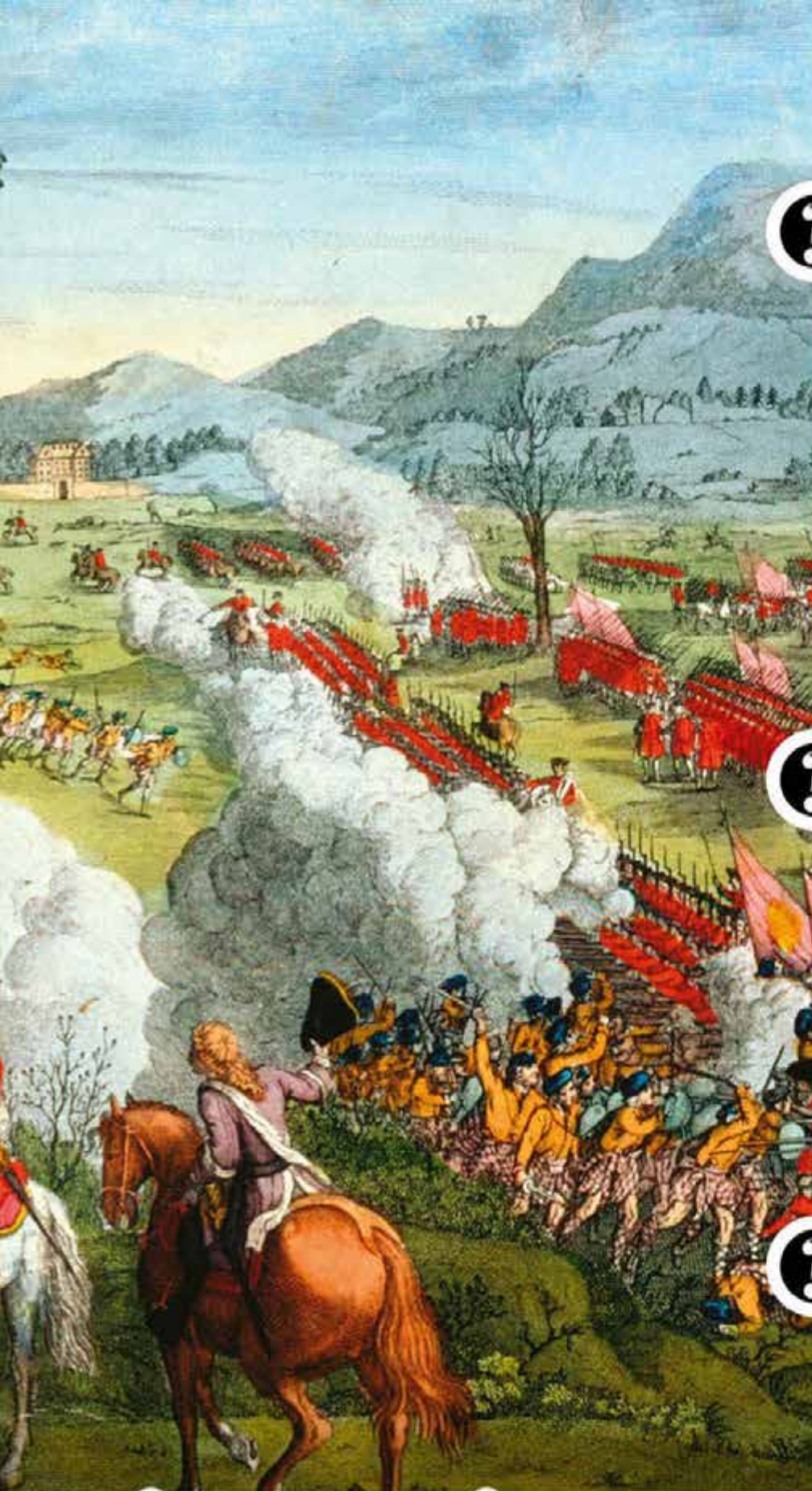
'Bonnie Prince Charlie' was the second Jacobite Pretender to the throne. He was a charismatic orator but lacked military skill.



Prince William, Duke of Cumberland

26 April 1721-31 October 1765

Youngest son of George II, he was in charge of British land forces against the Jacobites.



23 JULY 1745

18 APRIL 1746



Bonnie Prince Charlie, grandson of James II/VII, sails from France to Scotland and persuades an army of 5000 Highlanders to join him.



Battle of Culloden. Charles' Highlanders are massacred by the Duke of Cumberland's army. The Jacobite hopes ended with the last battle fought in Britain.



HITLER'S QUEEN OF THE SILVER SCREEN

How Leni Riefenstahl sold her soul to become the First Lady of fascist film

Written by David J Williamson

As a young actress and dancer, Leni Riefenstahl enjoyed success and fame in German movies. By both starring in and directing *The Blue Light* in 1932, she took her skills to a new level. Adolf Hitler was so impressed with the movie that he expressed a strong desire to meet the rising star. Riefenstahl had already heard him speak at a rally earlier that year and, like many others, had been impressed with the charisma and passion of his speech. She was delighted, and more than a little flattered, to accept. The invitation changed her life.

Riefenstahl had started down a road from which there was no return, personally or professionally. Her decision would bring her the awards and acclaim she so desperately sought, but taint her life and reputation forever. She was a gifted talent with great vision and passion; but as a driven woman in an industry dominated by men, this once-in-a-lifetime opportunity would have been almost impossible to refuse. Whether through pure ambition, ego, or the desire to push her creative boundaries, she committed herself to fulfilling the

demands of the Nazi propaganda machine. Soon she was collaborating on her first work for a new, powerful patron.

Hitler had become German chancellor in January 1933, and with his power came almost limitless resources for Riefenstahl to exercise her skills - a fact that certainly wouldn't have escaped her notice. With his head of propaganda, Joseph Goebbels, Hitler was acutely aware of the importance of film in projecting the image of the National Socialist Party, winning over the people at home, and sending a clear but chilling message to the rest of the world. What Riefenstahl had to offer could support their aims and further their goals. They had every intention of exploiting their newly acquired asset to the full.

The Victory Of Faith, a documentary of the 1933 Nuremburg Rally, was a filmmaker's dream come true. With a 'cast' of thousands filling a ready-made 'set' of a cityscape with wide open vistas and striking buildings, Riefenstahl was able to have free rein in developing the creativity and techniques that were to help her later works rise to the



Leni pioneered the use of long-focus lenses in the 1930s

pinnacles of excellence; a dress rehearsal for greater things to come. The documentary completely endorsed Hitler's confidence in the power of film as a tool of propaganda, and totally justified the belief and trust he had placed in Riefenstahl. He and his close associates were very pleased with the results from their new protégé, and her acceptance into their circle was beginning to bear fruit. Her continuing meteoric rise meant that by 1934, Riefenstahl had established almost unprecedented direct access to Hitler, answering to no one but him, not even Goebbels.

At various points in her career, Riefenstahl gave very different, contradictory answers to the same question, and her relationship with Hitler was no exception. At one time she described him as "an acquaintance," while on a completely separate occasion recalled that they once took a "romantic stroll along a beach." There is no doubt there was mutual respect, and documentary, film and photographic evidence clearly shows that they could be relaxed and comfortable in each other's company. Some have gone as far as to suggest that Hitler may have been romantically drawn to Riefenstahl, but this is pure speculation. Her earlier acting roles had been of the physical, heroic action woman, and this certainly rang true with Hitler's belief in a shining example of the ideal mother figure that lay at the heart of the future of the Aryan Race.

If Hitler expected Riefenstahl to build on her success and continue to prove her worth, he was



She enjoyed a close working relationship with Hitler on all of her projects

"Her continuing meteoric rise meant that by 1934, Riefenstahl had established almost unprecedented access to Hitler"

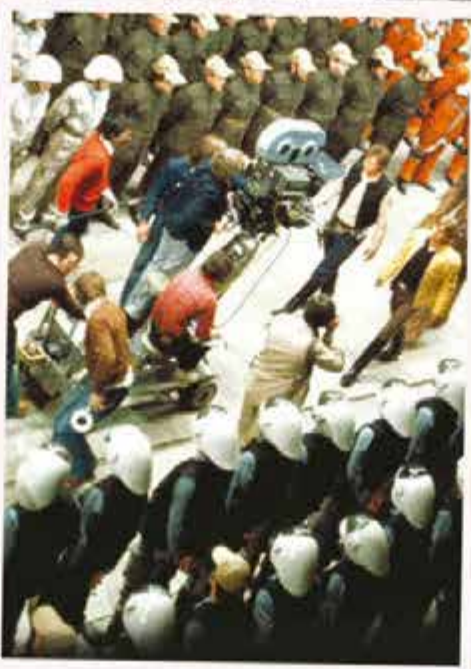
not to be disappointed. As a piece of propaganda of sheer scale, impact and importance, *Triumph Of The Will* (1934) has few rivals. Better prepared and better equipped, with over 100 staff under her, Riefenstahl was able to plan and execute a logistical triumph with a budget that the head of any Hollywood studio would have been envious to command. Using innovative camera techniques, she was able to capture the momentum and endless energy of the 1934 Nuremberg Rally. The clean crisp lines of the buildings complemented the vast geometric precision of marching troops; and above it all, tall swastika banners dominated the skyline. It was a choreographed spectacular, evoking the scale and grandeur of the Wagnerian folklore and legend so close to Hitler's heart.

In 1975 the critic Susan Sontag accused Riefenstahl of orchestrating the whole event; that the rally was about the movie rather than the other way round - scenes rehearsed and reshot over and over; the whole event stage-managed for the cameras. But was that not the point? Hitler and Riefenstahl had worked meticulously together on planning for the event. He was fully committed to film as propaganda, so of course the placement of cameras and choice of shots were to be used to best effect, the final product of paramount importance. In essence, the rally and the film were as one. For the million plus people at the event, the message was very clear. But the focus of Hitler's intentions was the millions more the movie would reach.

To celebrate the beauty and athleticism of the human form was fundamental to Nazi beliefs. The Strength Through Joy (Kraft durch Freude) movement promoted the health and fitness of young women as would-be mothers of the future race; pure in breeding and untainted by disease or deformity. The 1936 Olympic Games in Berlin was to give Hitler a global stage for his politics and beliefs. It was also to give Leni Riefenstahl the opportunity to flex her artistic muscles in a celebration of the human form.

Olympia (1938) is a work of epic proportions in two parts, which would forever change the way sporting events were filmed. In typical fashion, Riefenstahl would not be restricted by convention. And, as with her previous projects, she had a virtually limitless government budget to exercise her plans. The creative use of light and shade had long been a tradition in German film production and Riefenstahl used it to great effect. But it was also the more unconventional techniques - the filming of athletes from the ground up, for example - that enabled the viewer a rare and intimate insight into the athlete's world. It wasn't without controversy, however. German Jewish athletes had been sent to special training camps but never picked for the games.

Riefenstahl filming *Triumph Of The Will* on a trolley camera, and George Lucas using the same technique in *Star Wars: A New Hope*



Outlawed filmmakers

As the Nazis seized power, these Jewish filmmakers planned their escape. Some went on to make Hollywood's golden era extra golden, while others were not so fortunate



Fritz Lang

The director of classics such as *Metropolis* (1927) and *M* (1931) was identified as a Jew even though he was brought up as Roman Catholic. He fled Germany after a meeting with Goebbels. After staying in France he then emigrated to the US.



Billy Wilder

The co-writer of the classic film *Sunset Boulevard*, left Nazi Germany for Paris, and then Hollywood, where he would go on to win six Oscars. His mother, grandmother and stepfather all died in the Holocaust.



Robert Siodmak

Criticised openly in the press by Goebbels, Siodmak made his way to Paris and eventually to the US. Famous for films such as *The Killers* (1946), *Cross Cross* (1948), and *The Crimson Pirate* (1952), he returned to Europe after the war.



Kurt Gerron

The actor and director starred in *Blue Angel* (1930) with Marlene Dietrich. He fled Nazi Germany but was captured and forced to film Nazi propaganda about the 'fair treatment' of the Jews. He died in the gas chambers at Auschwitz in 1944.



Paul Morgan

A prolific Austrian Jewish actor from both the silent and sound eras. His final film, *Catherine The Last*, was completed in 1936, just two years before he was killed in the Buchenwald concentration camp.

Leni Riefenstahl

The USA sidelined athletes with Jewish origins. The world focussed on the black athlete Jesse Owens and Riefenstahl was no exception, choosing to film him rather than some German medal winners, risking Hitler's displeasure. Ironically, it is Leni Riefenstahl we must thank for recording Owens' triumphs in the face of adversity.

Throughout her life Riefenstahl denied that she had ever been a Nazi; one of a number of denials met with scathing distrust by many right up until her death. But why doubt her? There is no proof that she was ever actually a member of the Nazi Party. To take Riefenstahl at her word, she was merely a talented filmmaker who seized an opportunity with a powerful, charismatic and demanding patron to enable her to fulfil her creative dreams on film. She had always affirmed

that she was interested in art and not politics. There were many suspected Nazis after World War II who claimed they were 'just following orders.' Was Leni one of them? As someone who had such close direct contact with Hitler and his inner circle, it was either a case of not seeing or hearing, choosing what to hear and see, or just knowing everything and choosing to ignore it.

When Joseph Goebbels, as minister for propaganda, took complete control of the German Film Industry in the early 1930s, it was to ensure that any output was in keeping with the Nazi Party line. It also included the expulsion of all Jews from jobs within the industry. As they had been such a vital and prominent part of the growth and excellence of German film, their absence would have been widely noticed, not least by Riefenstahl

herself. She had many Jewish associates and had collaborated with them during her formative years in the film industry. What did she think was happening? Where did she think they had gone?

But again, we see her life as a contradiction. It is reported that she frequented Jewish shops, much to the displeasure of the Nazi hierarchy. She is also known to have assisted colleagues in the film industry whose spouses had been identified as Jews, or half-Jews. In one particular instance she used her influence to get a colleague's Jewish wife released from a concentration camp. Are these the actions of someone who is ignorant of the facts? In later life she was to say that she thought they had all emigrated.

When Hitler invaded Poland, it was Leni Riefenstahl who followed the troops, herself



Leni Riefenstahl, 1933, in *SOS Eisberg*

“Riefenstahl denied that she had ever been a Nazi; one of a number of denials met with scathing distrust by many right up until her death”

Leni's legacy

How the trailblazing director inspired Hollywood

In style and execution, *Triumph Of The Will* and *Olympia* have left their mark on modern movies, with the sweeping crowd shots in *Star Wars* and *The Hunger Games* lifted straight from Riefenstahl's work. It is the innovative techniques that make her films all the more inspiring. She was confident in her creative ability and as such she was willing to experiment and push the boundaries.

In *Triumph Of The Will*, it was the sheer scale and grandeur that lay at the heart of the movie. Long-distance shots of vast open space filled with ant-like figures in tight formation, while the use of aerial shots and long lenses captured spontaneous expressions from a distance.

Olympia, on the other hand, is much more intimate, almost intrusive in its style. We see the

athletes from unusual angles and close up, whether it's from above the diver as he leaves the platform or following swimmers from inflatable dinghies. The camera angles make the viewer feel part of the action, up close and personal.

But there is one more vital legacy. As a woman in a man's industry, she had shown that it was possible to not only succeed, but to excel. She became one of the best-known directors in history and set the bar for those who would follow. Perhaps this is the one legacy that Hollywood and the rest of the world were far too slow to accept.

Star Wars: The Force Awakens, 2015



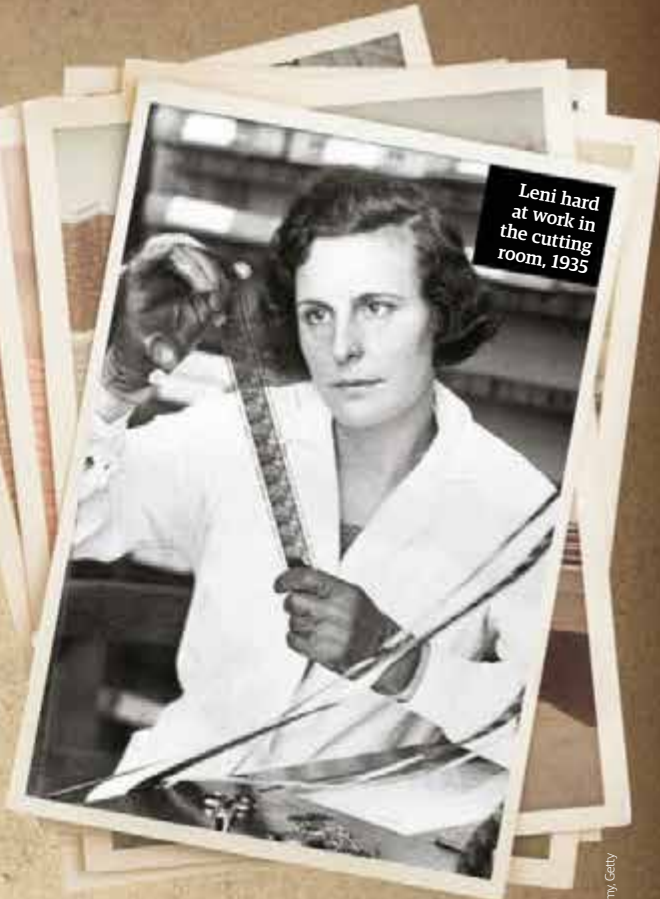
The Nuremberg Rally 1934



Leni Riefenstahl



Leni and Hitler were known to enjoy each other's company



Leni hard at work in the cutting room, 1935

© Alamy, Getty

in uniform, and filmed the victory parade in Warsaw. When Hitler invaded France she sent him a congratulatory telegram. In her last film, *The Lowlands*, she was accused of using extras from a Gypsy concentration camp; something she always denied. But it was she who spent hours on end in the editing suite producing her final work and the messages they contained.

Leni Riefenstahl was never found guilty of being a Nazi, merely a sympathiser. But her close and complex association with Hitler and Goebbels would ruin her life and career to such an extent it had to be reinvented later. Her denials and contradictory accounts of events did little to dampen speculation that she had rewritten the past, or just simply lied.

Her legacy as an innovative and visionary filmmaker lives on today, with her original techniques serving as part of modern movie making. For this she is recognised, admired and applauded. But her closeness to the Nazi regime, whether as puppet or collaborator, means that while she will never be forgotten, for many she will also never be forgiven. In the words of her friend and associate Joseph Goebbels, "A lie told once remains a lie, but a lie told a thousand times becomes the truth."



Riefenstahl during the filming of *Tiefenland*, c.1940

Time Traveller's Handbook

MEIJI

RESTORATION

Japan, 1868-1912

For around 250 years, Japan had closed its borders. The country decided that foreign influence was bad, so bad in fact that any foreigners entering, or Japanese nationals leaving the country were given the death penalty. However, the world, with all its technological advances, finally crept up on Japan when an American commodore showed up with huge warships and armaments that would reduce the country to dust. The shogun rule had worked for this long, but many

believed that if Japan didn't catch up with the rest of the world, it was only a matter of time before they paid dearly. An uprising quickly dethroned the shogun and put the emperor in his place, ushering in a period of Imperial Rule. With the country's sights now firmly set on transforming itself into a world power to be reckoned with, industrialisation is sweeping the land, and many ancient traditions and seats of power are threatened to be destroyed for good.

FIG.01



WHERE TO STAY

The very land itself is undergoing a dramatic change in this fast-moving period. The capital has changed from Kyoto to Tokyo due to Emperor Meiji moving there, and as a result is becoming a hub of political and cultural activity. Industrial zones are growing enormously and there is huge migration from the countryside to these centres of industry. In order to be in the middle of all the action it would be wise to live in Tokyo. Another advantage are the excellent rail links to all over the country, if you fancy a change of pace away from the hustle and bustle of the city.

FIG.02

Dos & don'ts

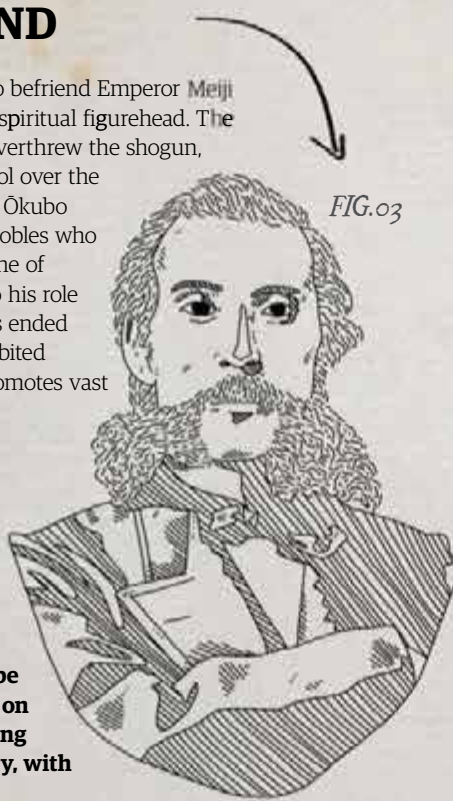
- ☒ **Praise the emperor** Despite him wielding little power, the emperor stands as an important symbol of Japanese culture and the Shinto religion.
- ☒ **Learn 'standard language'** This new nationwide dialect has replaced local and regional dialect and will become the norm in all aspects of Japanese life.
- ☒ **Be prepared to be conscripted** Nationwide conscription was introduced in this era, meaning every male has to serve four years when they turn 21.
- ☒ **Take advantage of public education** This is the first time this has been introduced in Japan in an effort to catch up with the West.
- ☒ **Be too Western** Although there is wide influence by the West, there is still a very key appreciation of traditional values.
- ☒ **Expect to vote in elections** Despite having an 'elected' parliament, only the wealthy one per cent can actually vote.
- ☒ **Let your class define you** The old Japanese feudal system is a thing of the past, and now you can break free and become anything you wish.
- ☒ **Stay in one area** For the first time Japan has an incredibly wide transport and communication system - take advantage of it and see everything.

WHO TO BEFRIEND

Ōkubo Toshimichi

Although the obvious route may be to befriend Emperor Meiji himself, the young leader is merely a spiritual figurehead. The true power lies with the group who overthrew the shogun, who are rapidly extending their control over the military and economy of the country. Ōkubo Toshimichi is one of the three great nobles who led the rebellion, and is regarded as one of the founders of modern Japan. Due to his role he wields considerable power and has ended discrimination against outcasts, prohibited samurai from wearing swords and promotes vast industrial development.

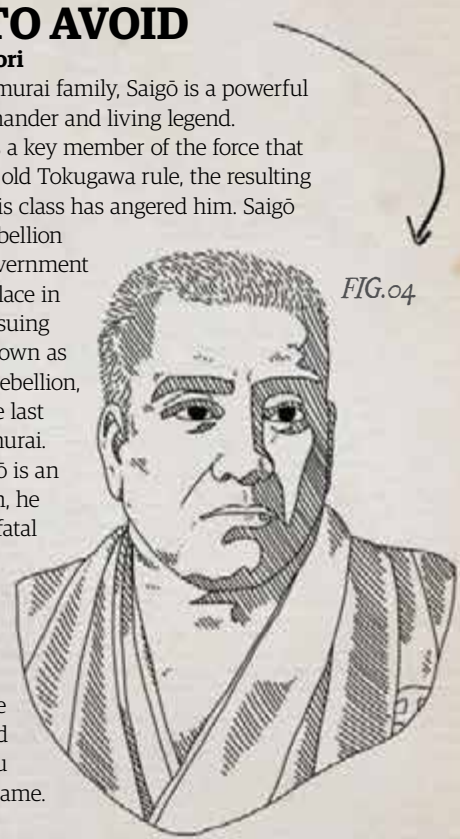
Extra tip: Another wise figure to buddy up with is Itō Hirobumi. Hirobumi is a very influential figure, and has taken advantage of the rapidly changing times to climb the political ladder and become the first prime minister of Japan. A friendship with him will be well worth the effort, as he will go on to serve as one of the longest serving Japanese prime ministers in history, with 2,716 days in the role.



WHO TO AVOID

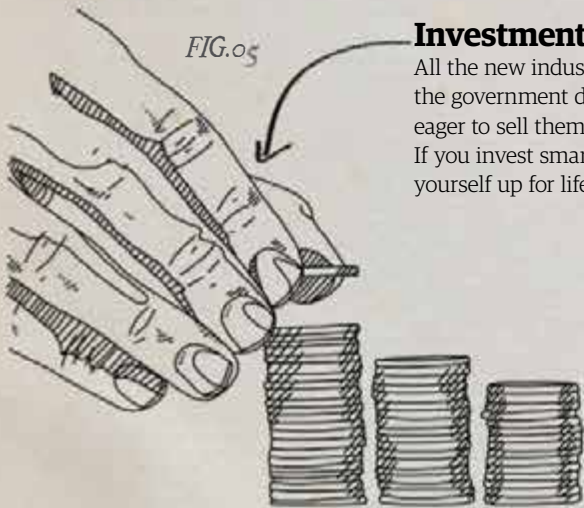
Saigō Takamori

Born into a samurai family, Saigō is a powerful military commander and living legend. Although he is a key member of the force that overthrew the old Tokugawa rule, the resulting relegation of his class has angered him. Saigō now leads a rebellion against the government he helped to place in power. The ensuing war will be known as the Satsuma Rebellion, and will be the last war of the samurai. Although Saigō is an admirable man, he has made the fatal mistake of attempting to cling to the past in a country heading for the future. It would be wise for you not to do the same.



Helpful skills

In a transforming country, these skills will ensure you keep up with the times

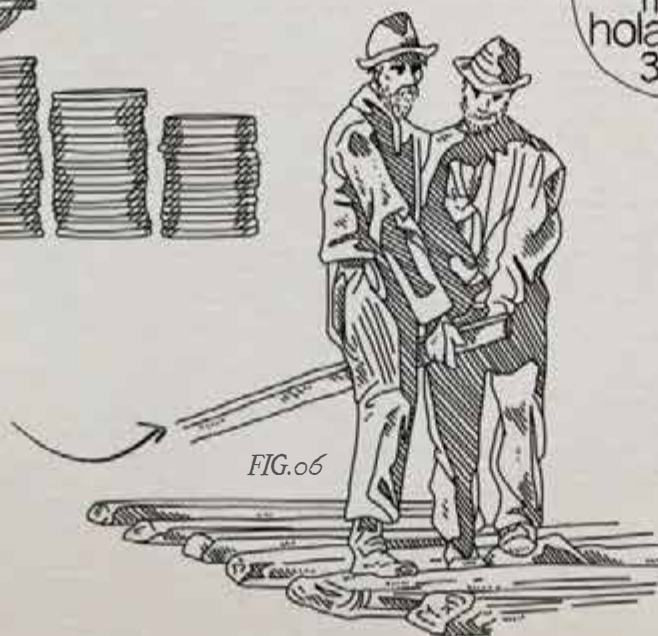


Investment

All the new industries have cost the government dearly and they are eager to sell them to private investors. If you invest smartly, you could set yourself up for life with huge profits.

Construction

When a country grows it needs builders, and Japan is growing at an alarming rate. You'll be able to find work in building railways, shipyards, mines or munitions, to name a few.



Language skills

Japan is finally opening its borders, and building relations with foreigners is key. Speaking a multiple of foreign languages will make you invaluable to the ambitious government.

What if... Queen Mary I had married Reginald Pole?

Without the prospect of a Spanish king, England
could have seen its first joint monarchy and a peaceful
return to Catholicism

Written by Samantha Wilcoxson

In July 1553, Mary Tudor claimed the throne of England, despite her brother's efforts to disinherit her and replace her with Lady Jane Grey. Queen Mary was welcomed and beloved by her people, until she insisted upon marrying Prince Philip of Spain. As the rebellion against a Spanish king and protests of the counter-reformation became fused into one, Mary saw her hopes of restoration with Rome evaporate. Failing to produce an heir, Mary's crown was left to her Protestant sister, Elizabeth, in 1558. But what if Mary had decided to marry her cousin, Cardinal Reginald Pole, instead?

Mary is declared Queen of England. The people rejoice, but there remains one question: who will she marry? A woman surely cannot rule alone and Mary's greatest duty is to bear an heir, so the decision is of utmost importance. When she chooses Reginald Pole, the heir of the York remnant, all breathe easy that England will not come under the control of a foreign prince.

Addressing concerns regarding her likelihood of bearing a child at her advanced age, Mary requests that she and Reginald be named co-monarchs. They are married and a joint coronation is held on 1 October 1553. Immediately, work begins to reconcile England with Rome. A cardinal until his marriage, King Reginald has the ear of Pope Julius III, while Mary boasts the support of her cousin, the Holy Roman Emperor Charles V. A peaceful restoration of Catholic worship begins.

However, problems arise when Mary suffers a false pregnancy in 1554. Her sister, Elizabeth, unhappy with both the return of Catholicism and her reduced chances of gaining the crown, attempts to conspire with rebels. The plot is quickly discovered and Elizabeth is imprisoned within the Tower. Without her leadership, the outcry against Reginald and Mary dissipates.

However, after a second false pregnancy the following year, the king and queen recognise the need to stabilise the succession. King Reginald takes Edward Courtenay, Earl of Devon, under his wing, training him in leadership and the faith. Still in captivity, Elizabeth is offered a bargain. She must take Edward as her husband and joint heir to the throne to gain her release from the Tower. Seeing it as her only way to freedom and the crown, Elizabeth accepts.

In March 1556, Edward and Elizabeth are wed as Thomas Cranmer goes to the stake - the final Protestant leader to be executed for his part in the break with Rome. With the succession secure, King Reginald publishes his book of sermons for the nurturing of the Catholic faith in those subjects too young to remember when the mass was said in England. Spain and France are at war, but peace reigns in England.

Sorrow sweeps across the nation when King Reginald and Queen Mary die on the very same day, on 17 November 1558. The people lament that

their great love would not allow one to survive without the other. Their brief but affectionate marriage did not produce children, so King Edward VII and Queen Elizabeth are crowned. The new monarchs have a volatile relationship but are fruitful. Elizabeth despises pregnancy, however easily the condition seems to come to her. After five children in as many years, she bans her husband from her chamber. Abhorring King Edward's womanising ways, Queen Elizabeth takes her happiness into her own hands. Since childhood she has loved Robert Dudley, and she feels that she has earned this sliver of joy.

A queen enjoys many things but privacy isn't one of them, and as a result, Elizabeth's affair with Dudley is soon discovered. As she walks stiffly onto Tower Green for her execution, she cannot help but think of her mother who died there for the same reason, precisely 30 years earlier.



SAMANTHA WILCOXSON

Samantha Wilcoxson is the author of the *Plantagenet Embers Trilogy*, a series of stories featuring the York remnant in Tudor times. Her work draws attention to the lesser-known women in history, taking an intimate look at the personal lives of Elizabeth of York and Margaret Pole. Her most recent novel, *Queen Of Martyrs*, features Queen Mary I. Future projects are planned to explore the lives of women throughout the Plantagenet Dynasty.

How would it be different?

Mary welcomed to London

Abandoning Lady Jane Grey, the people of London rejoice as Mary arrives to claim her crown. They fondly remember the daughter of Henry VIII and see her as Edward VI's rightful heir. **3 August 1553**

A wedding and coronation

In an unprecedented grand event, Mary and Reginald Pole are wed and anointed co-monarchs. Their union creates a bond between Tudor and York bloodlines and calms people's fears of foreign rule. **1 October 1553**

Elizabeth is arrested for conspiring with the rebels

Following Queen Mary's tragic false pregnancy, Elizabeth incites rebellion, hoping to place herself on the throne and return England to Protestant worship. The uprising falls flat, and Elizabeth is imprisoned. **10 February 1554**

A wedding and a burning

The Protestant remnant is silenced when Thomas Cranmer goes to the stake. On the same day, the Lady Elizabeth protects her place in the succession by marrying her cousin, Edward Courtenay. **21 March 1556**

What if...
QUEEN MARY HAD MARRIED REGINALD POLE



Elizabeth marries her cousin, Edward Courtenay, at the behest of her sister Mary and brother-in-law Reginald Pole

● **Death of King Reginald and Queen Mary**

In a tragically romantic twist of fate, King Reginald and Queen Mary die on the same day, leaving Princess Elizabeth and Edward Courtenay as their joint heirs. **17 November 1558**

● **England's second coronation of co-monarchs**

According to the terms of Elizabeth's pardon, she and her husband are named King Edward VII and Queen Elizabeth in their joint coronation. Their relationship is already known to be tempestuous. **15 January 1559**

● **Execution of Queen Elizabeth I**

Queen Elizabeth's affair with Robert Dudley leads to her execution for treason. She goes to her fate exactly 30 years after her mother, Anne Boleyn, was beheaded on Tower Green. **19 May 1566**

A HISTORY of COCKTAILS



The origins of these spirited concoctions revealed

Written by Olivia Williams

For modern drinkers, cocktails usually evoke images of slick bartenders, polished silver shakers and elegant frosted glasses with a twist of lemon. However, they have much more historic, rudimentary beginnings. The forerunner of the cocktail - 'mixed drinks' - had been evolving for over a century before the sophisticated golden age of the 1920s and 1930s. Although the word 'cocktail' was not in common usage yet in Britain, what we now think of as cocktails were becoming available as early as the 1850s. They made a spectacular showcase at London's first cocktail bar when Alexis Soyer, a Frenchman who made his career cooking at the Reform Club on Pall Mall, opened the Victorian equivalent of a pop-up bar in 1851.

He offered a choice of 40 drinks to the 6 million visitors who attended the Great Exhibition in Hyde Park. Because he had been asked to make non-alcoholic drinks for the exhibition, Soyer decided to set up shop by the gates, where he could make his drinks as punchy as he wanted. The scale of his ambition was reflected in the title - 'Gastronomic Symposium of All Nations' - and attracted around 1,000 thirsty visitors a day. Although we might view this as a wonderful early achievement that showed Londoners were keen to experiment with sophisticated new drinks, it was financially ruinous for poor Soyer.

From the beginnings of 'mixed drinks' in Victorian Britain, American bartenders made two big contributions to the movement: showmanship and the use of ice. The latter was a novelty to the English, and when author Charles Dickens visited the US in 1842, he marvelled: "Hark! To the clinking sound of hammers breaking lumps of ice, and to the cool gurgling of the pounded bits as... they are poured from glass to glass."

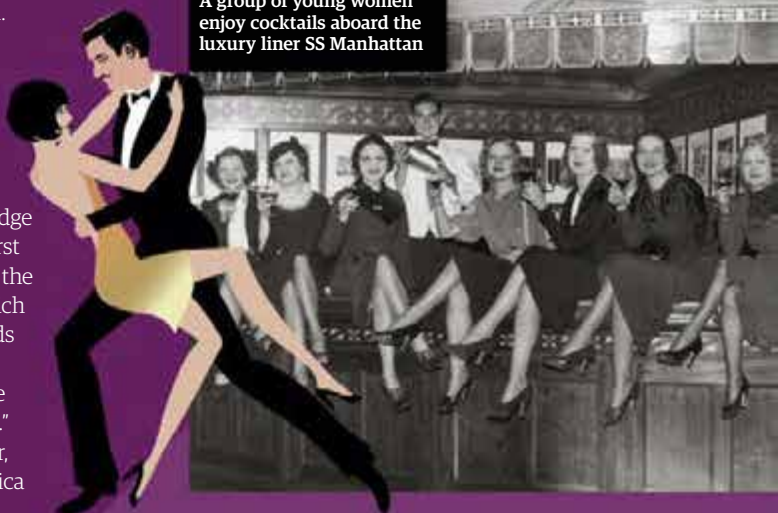
In England, drinkers were, as a rule, wary of water. It could be so unsafe to drink that just a few sips could leave you with all manner of diseases, from cholera to typhoid. Therefore, ice was both an expensive luxury and a potential health hazard. Even in 1871, the university drinking guide *Oxford Night Caps* had to explain to its readers that ice was safe to consume. However, it did acknowledge that when the Cobbler drink was first introduced, "ice was procured from the confectioners and fishmongers, which had been taken from stagnant ponds and noisome ditches; consequently those who partook of it imbibed the filthy impurities which it contained." But with the advent of steam power, ice began to be shipped from America

and Canada, and so the cool beverages started to be an attractive prospect.

It was also in this period that drinks started to be served widely in glassware, rather than opaque tankards. This transition also increased cocktails' sophistication as it became relevant how attractive they looked in the glass, and this in turn elevated the barman's powers of presentation.

By the early 20th century, the notion of a glitzy bar where the barman took centre stage, serving signature drinks with theatricality, became popular.

A group of young women enjoy cocktails aboard the luxury liner SS Manhattan





Opera singers Gladys Swarthout and Queena Mario pour a cocktail or two

They were known as 'American bars' and *The Spectator* described, in utter bewilderment, how elevated this approach to bartending was. The publication was incredulous that men actually wanted to make careers from mixing cocktails: "The intellect that might have been used to free America from the recurring horrors of a presidential election had been so diverted as to reveal the sublimities of gin." The publication marvelled at American bartenders' skills, juggling the liquor so that it seemed to 'spout from one glass and descend into another, in a great parabolic curve, as well defined and calculated as a planet's orbit."

The most legendary barman of all was Jerry Thomas, who showed off his expertise when he toured Britain in 1859. He exhibited his flair with

"MANY COCKTAILS... STARTED AS MEDICINAL COMBINATIONS"

the aid of solid silver bar utensils worth £1,000. A master self-publicist, before his guest stint at the Cremorne Pleasure Gardens in Chelsea, Thomas had leaflets dropped over London from a hot air balloon to announce his arrival. They promised, "The real genuine iced American beverages, prepared by genuine Yankee professor."

Visitors were treated to a choice of gin, brandy or port wine Juleps, punches made with milk, whiskey, brandy, rum or gin, as well as "nectars and liqueurs of every variety." From the 'fancy' section of the menu, Thomas rustled up Gin Slings, Ladies' Blushes, Private Smiles, Sherry Snips and Brandy Smashes. Three years later, he brought out the most influential cocktail book of the time, the *Bartender's Guide*, and these cocktails would go on to enter the British cocktail canon.

The Ladies' Blush made by Thomas at the Cremorne Pleasure Gardens, became the signature drink of Leo Engel's bar at the Criterion restaurant, one of London's earliest permanent cocktail bars, at Piccadilly Circus. Engel doffed his cap to the Americans for their "ingenious inventions that have greatly added to the comfort of the human race." By the end of the century, a deluge of new recipe books were available to help home entertaining match the new standard of London bars. Even housekeeping doyenne Mrs Beeton had a recipe for Martinis in her posthumous 1906 edition, listed under 'American Drinks'.

Many cocktails that were not invented by bartenders started as medicinal combinations, which then evolved into the recreational. The most

HANKY PANKY

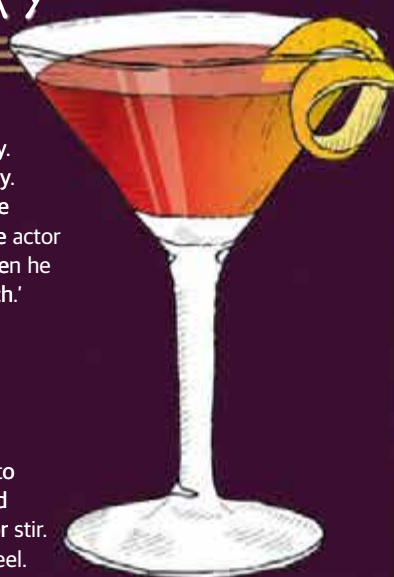
This Edwardian classic was created by Ada Coleman, head bartender at the Savoy Hotel, at the turn of the century. She was one of the most famous female bartenders in history. With the gin base of a Martini and the sweet vermouth of the Manhattan, it's a sturdy, bracing drink. She invented it for the actor Charles Hawtrey, who was a regular at the American Bar, when he came in asking her to rustle up something with 'a bit of punch.'

Ingredients:

Gin, sweet vermouth, Fernet Branca

Directions:

With just three ingredients the Hanky Panky is really simple to make at home. Combine 45ml gin, 45ml sweet vermouth and two dashes Fernet Branca in an ice-filled shaker, and shake or stir. Strain into a chilled cocktail glass, and garnish with orange peel.



MENU

WHAT'S YOUR POISON?

The tipples that Hollywood made famous



Some Like It Hot (1959)

Manhattan

Drunk by Sugar Kane Kowalczyk (Marilyn Monroe)



Casablanca (1942)

French 75

Drunk by Rick Blaine (Humphrey Bogart)



Casino Royale (2006)

Vesper

Drunk by James Bond (Daniel Craig)



Funny Girl (1968)

Creme de Menthe Frappe

Drunk by Fanny Brice (Barbara Streisand)



Fear And Loathing In Las Vegas (1998)

Singapore Sling

Drunk by Raoul Duke (Johnny Depp)



Breakfast At Tiffany's (1961)

Mississippi Punch

Drunk by Holly Golightly (Audrey Hepburn)

Customers at a Philadelphia bar after the end of the Prohibition, in December 1933



"LORD KITCHENER... HAD SHIPMENTS OF PIMM'S SENT UP THE NILE"

famous of these include the G&T, Pink Gin and the Gimlet. G&Ts started life as a way of taking the daily quinine ration set up in malarial areas; the bitters in Pink Gin were thought to combat seasickness; while Gimlets were an enjoyable way to introduce vitamin C to a ship as an attempt to avoid scurvy, thanks to the lime juice. Exactly who first put gin and lime juice together into a Gimlet is uncertain, but there was a surgeon rear admiral Sir Thomas Desmond Gimlette (1857-1943) in the navy when it started to become popular, and he is often credited with the invention of the delicious gin cocktail.

Not all army and navy drinking could be claimed as medicinal, however. Lord Kitchener's forces in Sudan had shipments of Pimm's sent up the Nile in 1898, which had no possible health benefits. It could be tricky to actually get hold of the bottles once they arrived in the country, as the cocktail base was such an unfamiliar product to the locals. Major H P Shekleton in Khartoum sent a telegram to the manager of Pimm's in July 1898 saying: "Many thanks... Pimm's has already caused a good deal of excitement and is refused registration but hope for the best."

This would become a repeating theme - Shekleton wrote of another hiccup in getting the Pimm's through Europe later that year: "It has been an object of the greatest suspicion. Nobody would register it and every customhouse wanted to charge enormous duty... It has been sealed and resealed, stamped, labelled and tied up in all sorts of ways with tape and coloured string, but has





survived it all and is now reposing in my cabin looking well after its many vicissitudes."

Once Pimm's became familiar cargo, British soldiers had an easier time getting to actually drink it. Colonel Rogers, director of army supplies in Cairo, wrote: 'It is really very kind of Messrs Pimm to be so thoughtful about poor fellows sweltering out in these regions. It is nice to know that people at home take practical interest in our welfare.'

Into the 20th century, and cocktail drinking went truly global. Ironically, in the United States when the government decided to take the most extreme action possible - Prohibition - to stop the march of alcohol, it actually prompted some of the world's most memorable and exciting drinks, because bartenders were forced to experiment with limited ingredients. When it became obvious by 1933 that Prohibition was failing and was accordingly abandoned, the cache of being once illicit gave cocktails an edgy glamour.

Also a lucky upshot of Prohibition for Londoners was the arrival of America's leading barmen in search of employment. The most famous of these was Harry Craddock, who went on to compile *The Savoy Cocktail Book*, the highest-selling cocktail compendium in history. If Craddock had any anxieties about leaving New York, he need not have. He quickly found a job at the Savoy's

American Bar, which he ran with great flair, making it a haunt for both old-money Londoners and Hollywood stars such as Ava Gardner, Errol Flynn, and Vivien Leigh. Like Jerry Thomas before him, he knew how to self-publicise - he would even go so far as to advertise his return from holidays in *The Times'* announcements.

Among his 750 drinks, Craddock thought it "a great necessity of the age" to develop effective 'Anti-Fogmatics' in particular. They were alcoholic drinks that were designed to clear the head in the morning, which Craddock did not think a contradiction. He insisted that drinking in the morning was beneficial, and recommended that his cocktails be drunk "before 11 am, or whenever steam and energy are needed." One of his enduring anti-fogmatics was the unappetisingly named Corpse Reviver No 2, although one would be hard-pressed to find anyone who knocks them back for breakfast these days. With a dash of absinthe on top of gin, Cointreau and Kina Lillet, Craddock did offer the health warning: "Four of these taken in swift succession will unrevive the corpse again." He was well aware of the potency of his own concoctions and advised, for the Bunny Hug - a mix of whisky, gin and absinthe - that: 'This cocktail should immediately be poured down the sink before it is too late.'

He made more delicate classic drinks too, such as the ever-popular White Lady, a light combination of gin, egg white, Cointreau and lemon juice; the Bentley, to celebrate Bentley Motors' Le Mans rally victory, made with Calvados, Dubonnet and Peychaud's bitters; and the Mayfair, a delicious spiced mix of cloves, gin, apricot brandy, orange juice and syrup. He also championed the Dry Martini in London, for which we have been grateful ever since.

The other star of post-war London was Scottish bartender Harry MacElhone. His big break had come in 1911, at Harry's New York Bar on the Rue Daunou in Paris, as beloved by F Scott Fitzgerald, Ernest Hemingway and Coco Chanel. James Bond gave the bar more cachet still when he proclaimed it the best place in Paris to get a "solid drink" in *Casino Royale*. The bar claims to be the birthplace of such classics as the French 75, a gin and Champagne cocktail named after a World War I gun, the Bloody Mary, and the Monkey Gland, made with gin, orange juice, grenadine and absinthe. Embracing the bar's louche reputation, MacElhone

MAI TAI

Trader Vic, the godfather of tiki, created the fruity extravaganza that is the Mai Tai during World War II. In recent years orange, grapefruit and pineapple juices have been added to make it an even sweeter, longer drink. Originally Victor Jules Bergeron, or Trader Vic as he is better known, used 17-year-old Jamaican rum to make it at his bar in San Francisco, which would have given the 1940s Mai Tai more body and aroma, and a richer flavour.

Ingredients:

Rum, lime juice, Curacao, orgeat syrup, agave syrup

Directions:

Shake 50ml rum, 25ml lime juice, 12.5ml Curacao, 12.5ml orgeat almond syrup and 6ml agave syrup together, and pour into an ice-filled glass.



The service was all part of the allure of cocktails in the US

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25443.—Prince's Plate Cocktail Set, with 6 Cut Glasses... \$5 0 0 (Tray can be used separately.)



H 8146.—English Cut glass Decanter, Sterling Mount... \$1 15 0



20490.—Cocktail Shaker, with Strainer and Spoon, Prince's Plate, Sterling Silver... \$1 10 0 1 pint... \$2 0 0 1/2 pints... \$2 10 0 1 quart... \$2 15 0



H 4471.—English Cut glass Spirit Decanter with Sterling Silver Mount, 16 in. high... \$5 5 0



H 3021.—English Hand Cut Spirit Decanter, Sterling Silver Mount... \$1 15 0



H 8147.—English Cut glass Spirit Decanter, with Sterling Silver Mount... \$2 10 0



H 8148.—Sterling Silver Cocktail Tray, with Sterling Silver Mounted English Shaker and 6 Glasses, Etched Glass... \$10 15 0



20927.—Cocktail Shaker, Prince's Plate, Sterling Silver... 1 pint... \$2 10 0 1/2 pints... \$2 15 0 1 quart... \$2 15 0 12 pints... \$12 4



H 4433.—English Cut glass Spirit Decanter, with Sterling Silver Mount... \$2 7 0

WHOSE PISCO IS IT ANYWAY?

Relations between Peru and Chile have been decidedly frosty since the War of the Pacific (1879-83). Pisco is one of many diplomatic thorns between the neighbours – both claim the brandy as their own, and are battling for its exclusive designation of origin.

But it isn't just the brandy they are squabbling over – both also claim the Pisco Sour as their national cocktail. The most popular story about its heritage is that the frothy, tangy drink was invented in the Hotel Maury in Lima at the start of the last century by an American bartender named Morris, as an adaptation of the Whisky Sour.

The Pisco Sour's fame grew during the 1940s and 1950s, thanks to Hollywood stars such as Orson Welles, Ava Gardner and John Wayne, who sipped them at the Hotel Bolivar in Lima. At least the provenance of the Pisco Punch, created in the 1800s at San Francisco's Bank Exchange Bar, is beyond dispute.



Two ladies sip cocktails in an upmarket Parisian fashion boutique, c.1928

thoughtfully had luggage tags made for regulars that read, "Return me to Harry's Bar, 5 Daunou."

Not quite so refined and elegant was the era of tiki cocktails, such as the Mai Tai and the Painkiller, which mainly had a rum base, rather than gin or vodka. The aesthetics of these tropical drinks could not be further from a sleek, clear Martini or a discreet White Lady, with their glasses full of outlandish garnishes, as immortalised by the character Del Boy on the British sitcom *Only Fools And Horses*. His drinks memorably captured the fashion for garish drinks like Pina Coladas, loaded with syrup, sweet fruit and showy decorations such as paper umbrellas, Day-Glo plastic stirrers and patterned straws. It originated, again, in America. After Prohibition, Trader Vic, or Victor Jules Bergeron as he was christened, opened his first restaurant in San Francisco where he pioneered rum-based cocktails. His tiki style was never as popular in Britain as it was in the United States, but it still remains a firm favourite with drinkers who have a sweet tooth.

In the early 21st century, classic cocktails made a comeback, and the emphasis at a new wave of cocktail bars was 'mixology', involving novel ingredients, complex flavours, and plenty of theatricality in the preparation. Alexis Soyer, Jerry Thomas and Harry Craddock would be proud – the elegance of bartending has come full circle.

"THE AESTHETICS OF THESE TROPICAL DRINKS COULD NOT BE FURTHER FROM A SLEEK, CLEAR MANHATTAN"

THE BEE'S KNEES

A twist on the Gin Sour, this shaken and then strained mix of gin, honey, and lemon juice is thought to have been concocted during Prohibition in the United States, when questionable bootlegged spirits needed masking with something sweet. It embodies the paradox that the 1920s was also the Jazz Age, an era of *Great Gatsby*-style sophisticated fun – and therefore a golden age for drink innovations. Cocktails from this period often also have the advantage of being easy to throw together, as they would have been in the makeshift speakeasies.

Ingredients:

Gin, lemon juice, honey syrup

Directions:

Add all ingredients to a cocktail shaker. Add ice and shake until chilled. Strain into a chilled coupe or cocktail glass. Garnish with a lemon peel or lemon wheel.



FAMOUS

COCKTAIL

QUOTES

'I like to have a Martini, two at the very most. After three I'm under the table, after four I'm under my host.'

Commonly attributed to Dorothy Parker

'This frozen Daiquiri, so well beaten as it is, looks like the sea where the wave falls away from the bow of a ship when she is doing 30 knots.'

Ernest Hemingway

I don't know what reception I'm at, but for God's sake give me a gin and tonic. *Denis Thatcher*

'Listening to new jazz records for an hour with a pint of gin and tonic is the best remedy for a day's work I know.'

Philip Larkin

"A real Gimlet is half gin and half Rose's Lime Juice and nothing else. It beats Martinis hollow."

Raymond Chandler, The Long Goodbye



Fortified positions

Although outnumbered three to one, the Mexicans defending Puebla did so from a walled fortress that overlooked the town. Fort Guadalupe stood on top of a steep hill to the town's northeast opposite Fort Loreto, which was on another. From here the Mexicans could easily pick off the attacking French.

Mexican cavalry

Seeing the French soldiers struggling to escape back down the hillside, the Mexican commander, General Zaragoza, sent mounted troops to hack them down. They attacked the desperate soldiers from both sides as they sought to escape, slaughtering dozens who had become trapped in the mud.

French artillery

The battle started just before noon, when the French commander, General de Lorencez, ordered his cannons to fire on the Mexican position. It was followed by an infantry assault, then another bombardment and a second assault. By 3pm his artillery had run out of ammunition, but the Mexican defences stood firm.



Stormy skies

Towards the end of the battle, the heavens opened and a tropical storm lashed down. The battlefield became saturated, and French troops soon found themselves losing their footing as they scrambled to escape the Mexican onslaught.

French troops

The French infantry assaulted in three waves. When the final wave was repelled, their retreat was hampered by as they became bogged down in the deepening mud caused by the bad weather.



BATTLE OF PUEBLA

MEXICO, 5 MAY 1862

Written by Nick Soldinger

In the mid 19th century, as the burgeoning United States pushed its borders ever further west and south, it inevitably came into conflict with its neighbour, Mexico. This expansionist war of 1846-48 saw the US grab huge swathes of land, including California, and left Mexico deep in debt to Britain, France and Spain, who had all helped to fund the country's military.

A civil conflict - the Mexican Reform War - followed, further crippling the country's economy. When the war ended in 1861, Mexico's new president, Benito Juárez, took the bold decision to cease interest payments on its European loans. Both Britain and Spain were aggrieved enough to send token military forces in an attempt to put the squeeze on Juárez, but France took it one step further and sought to occupy the country.

In early 1862, a French force of some 6,000 men successfully invaded Mexico. Led by General Charles de Lorencez it landed on the east coast at Campeche, and headed inland to seize the capital, Mexico City. It was a bold plan but de Lorencez was confident of success. After all he was leading highly trained, well-equipped European troops against a peasant army that would - on paper at least - be no match for his modern force. But he was in for a rude awakening.

On 5 May, de Lorencez's army made camp on the outskirts of Puebla, 129 kilometres northeast of Mexico City. Mexican officials were desperately trying to negotiate a French withdrawal from the country but with little success. As discussions faltered, Lorencez decided to attack two Mexican forts under the command of General Ignacio Zaragoza, which overlooked Puebla's northern

outskirts. The Mexican Republic had recently annexed the town, and de Lorencez assumed its citizens would help to overwhelm the 2,000-strong garrison that policed them. He was wrong.

The attack began just before noon with an artillery salvo followed by an infantry assault. The attack failed. De Lorencez ordered a further artillery bombardment and another infantry assault, but that was also repelled. By 3pm, with his artillery now out of ammunition, he ordered his infantry to make a final and - as it transpired - disastrous attack. Torrential rain now began to lash down turning the battlefield into a quagmire. As the French retreated through the mud for the last time, Zaragoza had his cavalry chase them down.

By the time the fighting was over, the Mexican garrison had suffered 83 dead and 131 wounded, but their lines still held. The French force, by comparison, had been devastated - 462 soldiers lay dead on the battlefield, while more than 300 others had been wounded. De Lorencez now withdrew what remained of his forces to Orizaba, 145 kilometres to the east to regroup.

The defeat of the French at the Battle of Puebla proved an inspirational event for the young Mexican Republic, and on 9 May 1862 the president declared that henceforth Cinco de Mayo (5 May) would be a recognised public holiday. To this day it is still celebrated in the United States, often erroneously as Mexican Independence Day. Perhaps more importantly, however, although the war against the French would eventually end in defeat, the Battle of Puebla marks the last time that a country in the Americas was invaded by a European force.



French Imperial Army

TROOPS 6,000
ARTILLERY 18
BATTERIES



GENERAL CHARLES DE LORENCEZ

LEADER

Mistakenly believed he couldn't lose. "We've such a superiority," he wrote before the battle, "that I'm already the master of Mexico."

Strengths: Graduate of the St Cyr Military Academy and Crimean War veteran.

Weaknesses: Overconfident to the point of arrogance.



ZOUAVE LIGHT INFANTRY

KEY UNIT

Though it later opened its ranks to all, this elite unit was originally made up of Bedouin fighters from Algeria.

Strengths: Battle hardened, well equipped, loyal and disciplined.

Weakness: Poorly informed, they underestimated the opposition.

MINIÉ RIFLE

KEY WEAPON

The Minié ball, invented by Frenchman Captain Claude-Étienne Minié in 1847, allowed the rapid muzzle loading of rifled muskets.

Strengths: Accurate and effective up to 550 metres.

Weaknesses: Muzzle loading limited it to two to three shots per minute.

02 The Mexican defenders

The forts of Guadalupe and Loreto crowned two heights overlooking the town of Puebla. They were connected by a trench system that ran across the saddle of the two slopes. The Mexican commander, General Zaragoza, positioned the majority of his soldiers, armed with muskets and cannons, on Guadalupe in a well-defended position facing north, so that they could manoeuvre to tackle an assault from either the north or east as necessary.

03 Mexican cavalry

Zaragoza set up a skirmisher screen to protect his right flank by deploying his cavalry to the southeast. In the run-up to battle, a reconnaissance unit consisting of around 60 horsemen were sent forward to observe the French as they approached Puebla, and report back on their position and numbers.

04 The Mexican reserves

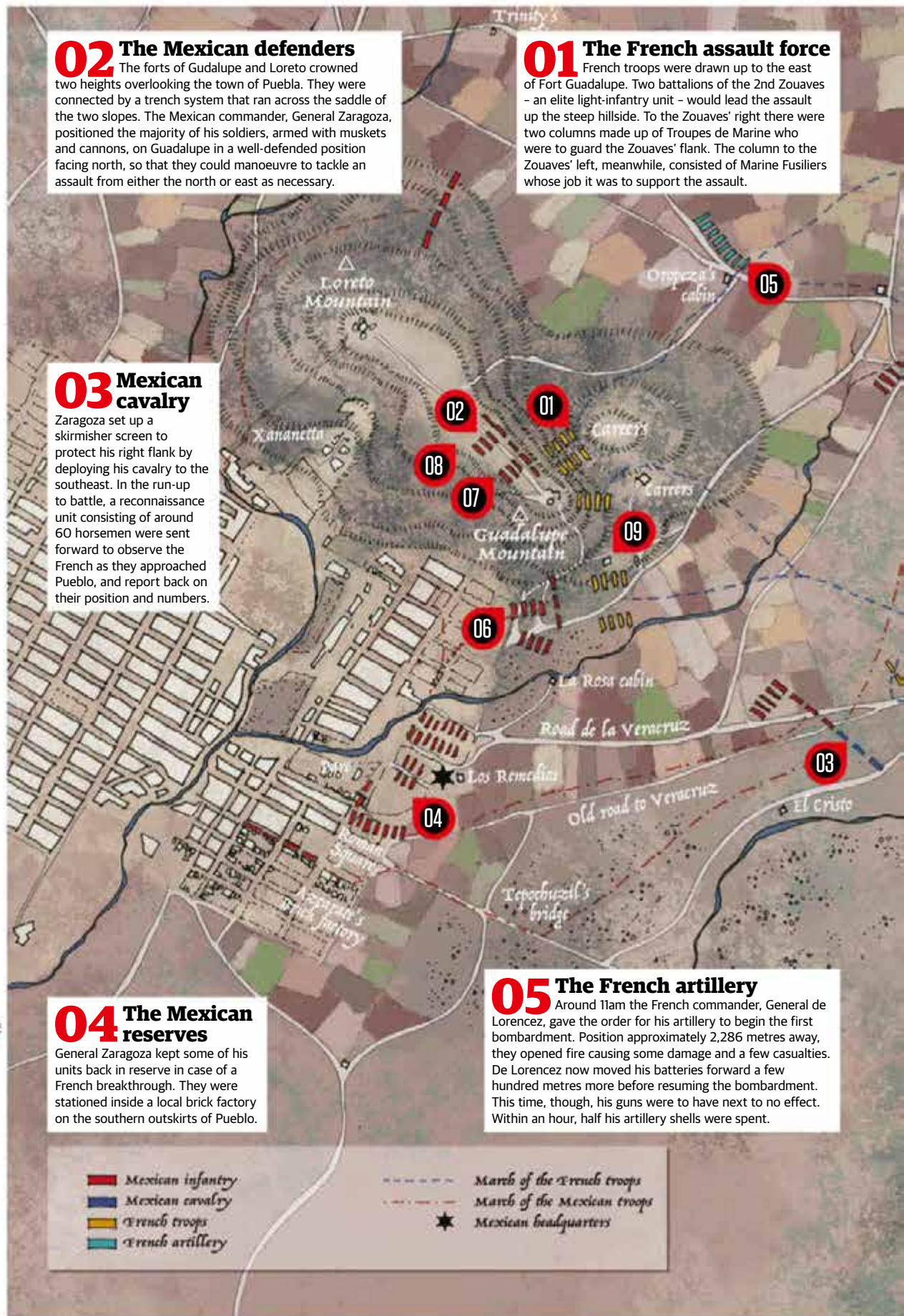
General Zaragoza kept some of his units back in reserve in case of a French breakthrough. They were stationed inside a local brick factory on the southern outskirts of Puebla.

01 The French assault force

French troops were drawn up to the east of Fort Guadalupe. Two battalions of the 2nd Zouaves - an elite light-infantry unit - would lead the assault up the steep hillside. To the Zouaves' right there were two columns made up of Troupes de Marine who were to guard the Zouaves' flank. The column to the Zouaves' left, meanwhile, consisted of Marine Fusiliers whose job it was to support the assault.

05 The French artillery

Around 11am the French commander, General de Lorencez, gave the order for his artillery to begin the first bombardment. Position approximately 2,286 metres away, they opened fire causing some damage and a few casualties. De Lorencez now moved his batteries forward a few hundred metres more before resuming the bombardment. This time, though, his guns were to have next to no effect. Within an hour, half his artillery shells were spent.





Mexican Republican Army

TROOPS 2,000
CAVALRY
APPROXIMATELY 400



GENERAL IGNACIO ZARAGOZA

LEADER

During the civil war that preceded the French invasion, Zaragoza defeated the great Mexican general, Santa Anna, in battle.

Strengths: Tactically astute, he also understood the land and its people.

Weaknesses: Lack of men and supplies to follow up his victory.



MEXICAN CAVALRY

KEY UNIT

Led by Lieutenant Felix Diaz, these troops would have been expert horsemen and, as veterans of the War of Reform, seasoned soldiers.

Strengths: Agile, fast moving, motivated and experienced.

Weaknesses: They lacked modern weaponry to match the French.



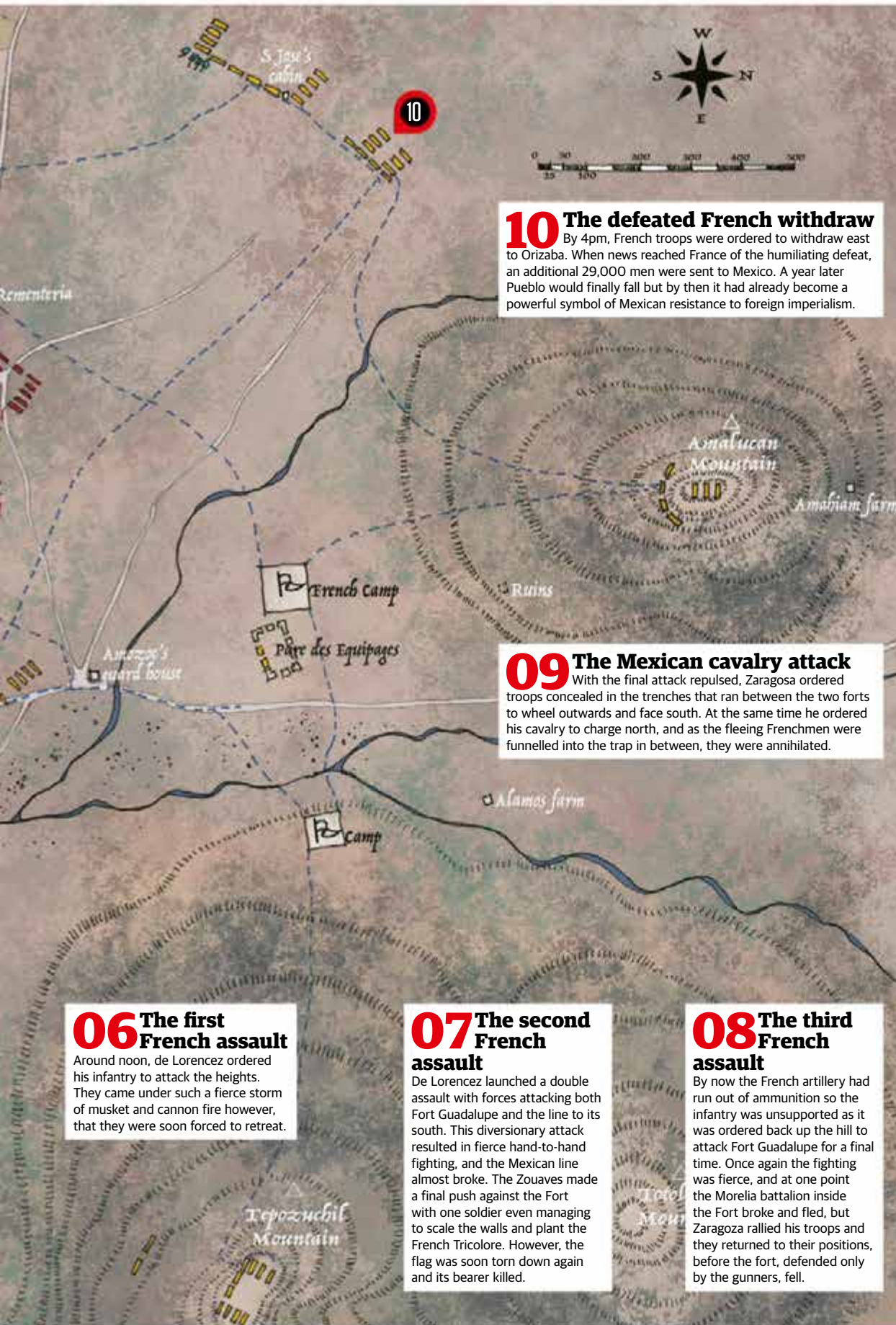
KENTUCKY RIFLE

KEY WEAPON

Although many cavalrymen would have lances or swords, weapons like the ubiquitous Kentucky rifle was used by many Mexican troops.

Strengths: Accurate to between 100 and 200 metres.

Weaknesses: Slow to reload and susceptible to jamming.



10 The defeated French withdraw

By 4pm, French troops were ordered to withdraw east to Orizaba. When news reached France of the humiliating defeat, an additional 29,000 men were sent to Mexico. A year later Puebla would finally fall but by then it had already become a powerful symbol of Mexican resistance to foreign imperialism.

09 The Mexican cavalry attack

With the final attack repulsed, Zaragoza ordered troops concealed in the trenches that ran between the two forts to wheel outwards and face south. At the same time he ordered his cavalry to charge north, and as the fleeing Frenchmen were funnelled into the trap in between, they were annihilated.

08 The third French assault

By now the French artillery had run out of ammunition so the infantry was unsupported as it was ordered back up the hill to attack Fort Guadalupe for a final time. Once again the fighting was fierce, and at one point the Morelia battalion inside the Fort broke and fled, but Zaragoza rallied his troops and they returned to their positions, before the fort, defended only by the gunners, fell.

07 The second French assault

De Lorencez launched a double assault with forces attacking both Fort Guadalupe and the line to its south. This diversionary attack resulted in fierce hand-to-hand fighting, and the Mexican line almost broke. The Zouaves made a final push against the Fort with one soldier even managing to scale the walls and plant the French Tricolore. However, the flag was soon torn down again and its bearer killed.

06 The first French assault

Around noon, de Lorencez ordered his infantry to attack the heights. They came under such a fierce storm of musket and cannon fire however, that they were soon forced to retreat.

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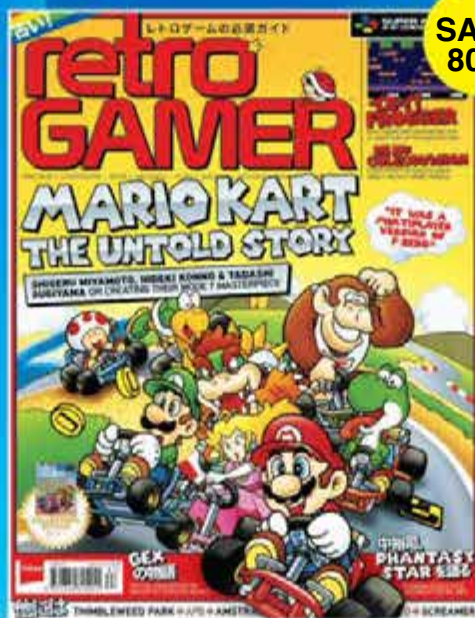
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INSIDE THE KGB

Operating in the shadows of the Cold War,
the Soviet KGB grew to become the largest state security
service in the world

Written by Matt Robinson



Demonstrations greeted former KGB chief Alexander Shelepin when he visited London in 1975

A year after the collapse of the Soviet Union, a former KGB officer named Vasili Mitrokhin walked into the British Embassy in Latvia. There was nothing unusual about walk-in defectors, claiming access to caches of Soviet secrets, but something about the shabbily dressed Mitrokhin and his story struck the on-duty staff as different. They offered him a cup of tea and he opened a suitcase that was stuffed full of dirty underwear and classified documents.

As head archivist for the KGB, Mitrokhin had unprecedented access to the organisation's records. In 1972 he had been tasked with moving the entire archive from the increasingly overcrowded Lubyanka headquarters in Moscow to a new facility in the more remote Yasenevo district - a task that would take 12 years to complete. Already disillusioned, the officer started taking detailed handwritten notes of the documents, which he smuggled, concealed in his shoes, to his dacha - and stashed them under the floorboards.

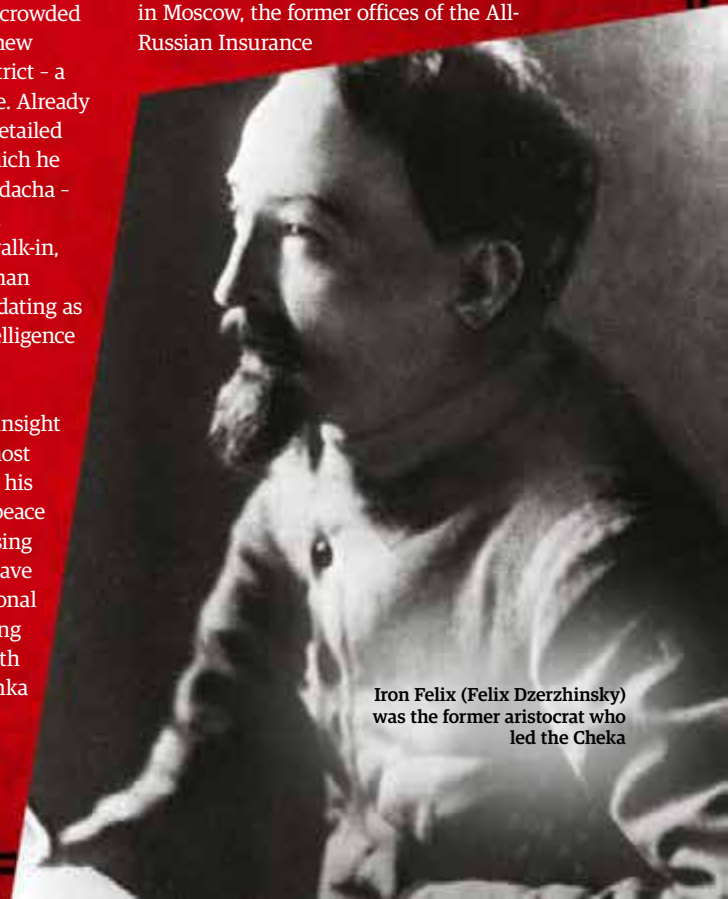
In the months following his Latvian walk-in, Mitrokhin would help to transfer more than 20,000 pages of top-secret information, dating as far back as 1918, to the British Secret Intelligence Service (MI6). The resulting revelations, presented in two books released before Mitrokhin's death, offer an unparalleled insight into the activities of one of the world's most clandestine organisations and expose, in his own words, just how thin the thread of peace really was during the Cold War. In amassing his collection of notes, Mitrokhin must have known he was taking an enormous personal risk. The KGB had a dark history of dealing with those who betrayed the cause - death sentences were carried out in the Lubyanka building and traitors were buried face down in unmarked graves.

Blood on the shield

The Cold War KGB traced its roots to the establishment of the first Soviet state security organisation - the Cheka - which was created after the Bolshevik revolution on 20 December 1917. The Cheka was led by the Polish-born former aristocrat Felix Dzerzhinsky - dubbed Iron Felix. As the Bolsheviks embarked on their great communist experiment, the political leaders realised that concentrating the means of production in the hands of the state would require the support of an ever-vigilant security apparatus. They were dedicated to the dirty work of disposing of enemies of the people, and more specifically, the party.

The Soviet system would have to be protected against attacks from the remnants of the old order and the 'agents of imperialism' who would seek to destroy the new regime. The Cheka's most effective method of dealing with opposition was terror - wholesale indiscriminate arrests, summary executions without trial and grotesque torture methods. Despite the blood-stained actions of the organisation, Dzerzhinsky's description of a Chekist as a man with "a warm heart, a cool head and clean hands" would become the catchphrase of KGB training manuals. Officers would proudly refer to themselves as Chekists - receiving their pay regularly on the 20th of each month, a date that was in honour of the day the Cheka was founded. The 20 December still stands as a professional holiday in the Russian calendar - the day of national security service workers.

It was Dzerzhinsky who chose the shield and sword design that became the symbol of the KGB - representing the defence of the state and the smiting of enemies. Until 1991, an iron statue of the Cheka chief stood in front of the KGB headquarters in Moscow, the former offices of the All-Russian Insurance



Iron Felix (Felix Dzerzhinsky) was the former aristocrat who led the Cheka

The KGB used an umbrella gun like this to assassinate dissident Georgi Markov on the streets of London in 1978



The poison pellet used to assassinate Georgi Markov



company, seized in 1917. Like its predecessor, the KGB existed not to protect the people from the excesses of the state, but rather to ensure the survival of the state and the ideology of the state, from those who would threaten it, whether at home or abroad. It wasn't always known as the KGB, however, as the Soviet intelligence service renamed itself seven times before settling on the initialism in March 1954, standing for 'Komitet gosudarstvennoy bezopasnosti' (committee for state security). As Lenin's "dictatorship of the proletariat" gave way to Stalin's cult of personality, the revolutionary zeal of the security apparatus only grew with each renaming.

Inquisitorial techniques, show trials and unexplainable purges were the hallmarks of Stalinist rule - as party organs were removed, and both dissidents and party faithfuls alike were brutally dispensed with. An oft-repeated joke of the time sees the security service arrive at a home at night, only to be told: "Wrong house, the communists are next door."

Speaking in 1937, at a party gathering to celebrate the Bolshevik Revolution, Joseph Stalin succinctly summarised the nightmarish pre-occupation of the Soviet intelligence services with a terrifying ultimatum, saying: "We will mercilessly destroy anyone who by his deeds or thoughts, yes thoughts, threatens the unity of the socialist state." As Lenin famously noted: "Trust is good, control is better." Fear would inspire obedience, and the state security apparatus as the primary tool of fear would ensure order by seeking out and destroying enemies - both real and imaginary - judged by their actions, or their thoughts.

The Khrushchev Thaw

Following Stalin's death in 1953, Nikita Khrushchev became leader of the Soviet Union. Using his skills as a politician, he denounced the role of the security services in past political excesses, as official party doctrine shifted away from the ferocious orthodoxy of Bolshevik and Stalinist rule. The KGB was established in 1954, coinciding



Semyon Tsvigun was first vice chairman in the KGB and author of spy novels

with Khrushchev's campaign of societal reforms and liberalisation. Previously banned artists were introduced, political prisoners rehabilitated and international relations improved. Khrushchev's denunciation of Stalin in 1956, in a pivotal speech delivered to delegates at the 20th Party Congress in Moscow, became emblematic of the period now known as the 'Khrushchev Thaw'. Liberalisation and de-Stalinisation would have a negative impact on the status of the security organs in the Khrushchev era, though.

The KGB's first chairman in 1954 was Ivan Serov, who had organised deportations in Ukraine and the Baltics, and helped to build the East German secret police, the Stasi. Like Khrushchev, Serov was of the old Stalinist school. He boasted of being able to break every bone in a man's body without killing him and coordinated the bloody Soviet reaction to the Hungarian Uprising in 1956. However, his tenure as chairman was punctuated with several

The Red in your bed

As the KGB graduated from the crimson techniques of the Cheka to more non-violent methods, the playbook of intelligence tactics had to be refined. The use of blackmail with compromising material - now known by its Russian name, Kompromat - became one of the most effective weapons used by the KGB to take care of political housekeeping.

Although the material sometimes involved financial or criminal indiscretions, it was more often than not sexual in nature. Commonly using Intourist hotels with bugged 'plus rooms,' the KGB would deploy prostitutes to acquire embarrassing material to be used for leverage. A classic case in 1957 saw a young British naval attache named John Vassall, photographed in compromising positions with numerous men while drunk at a Moscow party and blackmailed into working for the KGB. His betrayal netted Soviet intelligence thousands of classified documents that aided in the development of the Red Navy.

In modern Russia, Kompromat was used to destroy the career of the prosecutor general, Yury Skuratov, who in 1999 was investigating corruption in the administration of Boris Yeltsin. When a grainy video of someone resembling Skuratov in bed with two young women was released, the perfect timing led many to suspect intelligence services involvement. Tasked with verifying the video on television was the head of the FSB - and future Russian president - Vladimir Putin.



John Vassall, the British naval attache

significant defections of KGB officers to the West and Serov's reputation as a butcher soon became too much of a diplomatic embarrassment for the reforming Khrushchev.

Khrushchev aimed to improve the image of the Soviet Union around the world, releasing millions of prisoners from the Gulag penitentiaries and transforming how the security services dealt with internal dissent. Although famous outside the Soviet Union for its foreign intelligence operations, the KGB fulfilled a variety of domestic security functions - investigating individuals for political and economic crime, and overseeing censorship and state propaganda. The Second Chief Directorate and later the Fifth Chief Directorate would counter manifestations of political unreliability at home.

Other KGB tasks included protecting the Soviet land and sea border (Border Guards Directorate), providing bodyguards for state officials (Ninth Directorate) and maintaining telephone and radio

systems used by the state agencies (Sixteenth Directorate). Following Serov's removal, the new chairman, Alexander Shelepin, began to push for a more sophisticated intelligence service, removed from the brutality of the past. During his tenure (1958-1961), an influx of university graduates were appointed to replace the old guard.

Twisted psychiatry

The post-Stalin humanism of the Khrushchev era meant KGB officers were no longer inspired to beat or torture dissidents for confessions. Murder

became less a tool of enforcing state control for fear of international outrage, and foreign political assassinations were largely curtailed as KGB officers began to worry about looking ineffective while fighting internal dissent.

The solution was simple. Any dissident would be diagnosed with 'sluggish schizophrenia' - a disorder developed by a psychiatrist who believed that anyone who opposed the Soviet regime must be mentally unwell. As British commentator Francis Wheen observed: "If Being determined consciousness, as the revolutionary articles of faith

maintained, then it was impossible to have an anti Socialist consciousness in a Socialist society. Anyone who questioned or criticised Soviet policy must be displaying symptoms of such a consciousness, and must therefore be mad."

This form of so-called schizophrenia was categorised by deviant behaviour, and anyone diagnosed was stripped of their rights and sent to a psychiatric hospital - diminutively known as a Psikhushka. KGB chairman Yuri Andropov fully institutionalised the practice in 1969 and thousands were imprisoned in hospitals for months or even years. Nobel laureate Alexander Solzhenitsyn described this practice of punitive psychiatry as "spiritual murder." Protest while in captivity was pointless, as every complaint lodged in a patient's record was more proof of insanity. The aim was to break them physically and mentally, with drugs and electric shocks prescribed as 'treatment'.

The Khrushchev-era societal reforms would be short-lived and mostly reversed as he was succeeded by the more myopic Leonid Brezhnev in 1964, but the atmosphere at the time would forever define how the KGB operated internally. New sophisticated techniques would be developed to replace the brutality of the original Cheka.

Khrushchev's policies of liberalisation at home brought considerable changes to Soviet society during a period marked by uprisings in the Soviet satellite states - in 1953 in East Germany and in 1956 in Poland and Hungary. Each time they were violently suppressed by Soviet forces. Maintaining the "integrity of international socialism" and Soviet hegemony in the Eastern Bloc became a priority.

"Any dissident would be diagnosed with 'sluggish schizophrenia'"



The Lubyanka building in Moscow - the original headquarters for the KGB

ACTIVE MEASURES: THE LONG SWORD



Leon Trotsky
The Star Traitor • 1940

The brutal murder of Stalin's most vocal opponent in 1940 sent an important message to similar critics throughout the world. Exiled from the Soviet Union in 1929, the former head of the Red Army settled in Mexico city, only to be bludgeoned to death by an assassin wielding an ice pick.



Georgi Markov
The Umbrella Assassin • 1978

A vocal opponent of the Bulgarian regime of Todor Zhivkov, dissident writer Georgi Markov was shot with a poison pellet containing ricin, fired from an umbrella gun of KGB design, while he was waiting at a bus stop in London. Part of the pellet dissolved, enabling the poison to enter Markov's bloodstream and kill him.



President Hafizullah Amin
The Kabul Killing • 1979

Afghan leader Hafizullah Amin was killed after his Tajbeg Palace compound was stormed by an assault team led by KGB special forces - having already survived three Soviet assassination attempts. His death would coincide with a build-up of Soviet forces in the region and the start of almost ten years of occupation and war.



Stepan Bandera & Lev Rebet

The Poison Spray • 1957 + 1959
KGB assassin Bogdan Stashinsky murdered both Ukrainian nationalists by pouncing on his victims in darkened stairways, armed with a spray gun capable of delivering a lethal dose of cyanide. His defection to West Berlin and subsequent trial proved such an embarrassment for the KGB that assassinations outside the Soviet Bloc became much less frequent.

The KGB would serve as an essential tool in enforcing what, following the invasion of Czechoslovakia in 1968, became known as the 'Brezhnev Doctrine' - a policy KGB chief Yuri Andropov would be responsible for shaping.

Yuri Andropov & the 'Hungarian Complex'

While serving as Soviet ambassador to Hungary during the 1956 uprising, the future KGB chief witnessed how quickly a seemingly all-powerful communist state could be toppled by a popular uprising. This was something that haunted him for the rest of his life. Andropov went on to become the longest-serving head of the KGB, and followed his 15-year tenure by succeeding Leonid Brezhnev as Soviet leader in 1982. His Hungarian experience had confirmed for the KGB chairman the necessity of armed force in dealing with dissent in Soviet satellite states and the need for KGB involvement outside of Russia, halting resistance that would otherwise spread to the Motherland.

The KGB would expend vast amount of resources and energy on foreign operations, either in satellite states or against the 'Imperialist forces' - in particular the 'main adversary,' the United States. So-called 'Active Measures' - political assassinations, the spreading of disinformation, the financing of terrorist groups and so on - would go hand-in-glove with ordinary intelligence gathering, to attempt to discredit Western democracies and destabilise the globe in favour of the Soviets.

From the time of the Cheka, infiltration of foreign powers and interference of foreign affairs were considered essential tactics to defend the world's first worker-peasant state. Early successes in foreign operations were mainly in industrial espionage, and during the Stalin years

American suicide glasses, captured by the Russians



A lipstick pistol, known as the 'kiss of death'



The emblem for the KGB, showing the sword and shield picked by Dzerzhinsky



the procurement of atomic secrets from the United States. Legal agents, utilising official diplomatic cover, proved an important resource. For instance, in 1962, KGB Washington legal Alexander Feklisov, who had been case officer in the Soviet Atomic Spy Ring, aided in resolving the Cuban Missile Crisis.

However, it was the programme of 'illegals' - agents living under deep cover abroad - that would earn the agency a reputation for commitment to the art of espionage. Overseen by the most secretive KGB department - Directorate S - the use of illegals would become a cornerstone in foreign intelligence gathering. Even when their deep cover was blown, these operations served as propaganda for the Soviets, demonstrating the iron-jawed dedication of their agents taking the fight to the enemy, spending years living under false names and building credible backgrounds. Before embarking on an operation, these sleeper agents would swear allegiance to the Motherland "with every heartbeat, with every day that passes."

The exposing of Soviet illegal Rudolf Abel in 1957 led to one of the most widely known incidents in Cold War spycraft, as Abel was exchanged for U2 pilot Gary Powers, downed while on a top-secret CIA mission over the Soviet Union. KGB interference abroad and the success of worldwide operations, whether in Britain with the Cambridge Five or the 'main adversary' of the United States, would eventually mean nothing in the face of instability at home.

The bitter end

Backstabbing and betrayal was not uncommon in the political manoeuvring that marked the transition of power in

Vladimir Putin: The eternal Chekist

Serving as a KGB officer for 17 years, Vladimir Putin joined the intelligence services in 1975, serving with the First and Second Chief Directorate. Being fluent in German, his linguistic skills saw him working undercover for five years in East Germany from 1985, posing as a translator and rising to the rank of Lieutenant Colonel.

Although his KGB past is often mentioned in news stories, his achievements in the KGB are actually believed to have been of little note. What is more notable is the fact that Putin has proudly embraced his Chekist past. His time in the intelligence service played an important role in establishing Putin's credentials as a dedicated patriot and enabling his rise to power.

After being a loyal worker for nearly two decades, his resignation from the KGB transpired on 20 August 1991. This was the second day of the Kryuchkov-led coup attempt and no doubt impressed then prime minister Boris Yeltsin, who oversaw Putin's fast-track to director of the Federal Security Service (FSB). Following Yeltsin's shock resignation on 31 December 1999, Putin was made acting-president, and confirmed the following year. His first presidential order was to ensure corruption charges against Yeltsin were not pursued.

The struggle for Russia's post-Soviet political soul has mostly been fought between the so-called siloviki (former security services members) and oligarchs (the new rich). The siloviki must have been overjoyed at Putin's rise to power - a former intelligence officer happy to surround himself with colleagues from his earlier calling is a natural ally.



the Soviet Union. The security services and members of the Politburo often conspired against each other and were equally purged as fortunes changed.

In 1953, shortly after the death of Joseph Stalin, security chief Lavrenti Beria, tipped by some as the next leader, was removed from his position and executed - sharing the fate of his predecessors, Yagoda and Yezhov. Stalin's eventual successor, Nikita Khrushchev, would endeavour to limit the potency of the KGB - having led the plot against Beria, fearing the security chief was "getting his knives ready." Numerous KGB chairmen sought to make the leap to leadership before Yuri Andropov's success in 1982.

When in 1991 a coup d'état was launched against the regime of Mikhail Gorbachev, it was the KGB head Vladimir Kryuchkov who led the attempt. Contemptuous of the liberalisation of society, he hatched a plan in a Moscow bathhouse that was ultimately destined to fail. Commentators at the time joked that communism in Russia must be over if the Bolsheviks couldn't even mount an effective coup.

Political dissent that would have been swiftly stamped out under the rule of Brezhnev or Stalin, instead found space in Soviet society under the leadership of Mikhail Gorbachev, and policy demands that would previously have been classed as subversive, instead became mainstream. Increased transparency, market reforms and democratisation accompanied the liberalisation of Eastern Europe, as Moscow's grip on the satellite states loosened.

On Christmas Day in 1991, the hammer and sickle flag was lowered over the Kremlin for the last time. For those inside the KGB, this chaotic period only reaffirmed their belief in the need to



With Putin in power, the spirit of the Chekists still exists in modern Russia

"For... the KGB, this chaotic period only reaffirmed their belief in the need to suppress internal dissent"

suppress internal dissent and preserve the ruling order. However, as a result of their involvement in the attempted coup, the organisation was retired on 6 December 1991 and carved up into two new institutions: the FSB secret police agency and the SVR espionage agency.

In the mid-1990s, the word 'silovik' entered common use in Russia, to refer to former members of the military and security services who had

since made the move to become politicians. They believed in a centralised system for law and order, and were prepared to use strong-arm tactics to restrict press freedom and silence opposition voices. Since then, the silovik have become influential in shaping Kremlin policy, occupying key ministerial positions throughout the government. The sword and shield still casts a long shadow over modern Russia.

Khrushchev denounces Stalin at the 20th Congress of the Communist Party



The ukase establishing the KGB in 1954



Eustace Chapuys

The Imperial ambassador is known for making and breaking the reputations of Katherine of Aragon and Anne Boleyn, but has history misunderstood him?

Written by Lauren Mackay

Despite the passing of over 500 years, the story of Henry VIII and his six wives continues to make for an absorbing drama. It has been retold in countless films, operas, plays and television shows; there are heroes and villains, but which individual fits which role can sharply divide opinion. Take, for example, Imperial Ambassador Eustace Chapuys, who spent 16 years at the Tudor court as the ambassador for Holy Roman Emperor Charles V. He had an incredible flair for description, an acerbic wit and a sharp eye, counting great scholars Erasmus and Cornelius Agrippa as his friends. He also accomplished far more than we give him credit for, negotiating trade deals between Henry's councillors and foreign merchants and mediating in commercial disputes.

In his retirement, he financed and personally oversaw the building of a grammar school in his hometown of Annecy in Savoy (now in France) for underprivileged boys, and hired the most skilled tutors he could afford to teach there. He retired to Louvain in Belgium where he also founded a

college and financed a scholarship program. For the most part, however, Chapuys is known for his many years of service as ambassador to the Tudor court, and for better or worse, his prominence is inextricably linked to Henry's queens - Katherine of Aragon and Anne Boleyn in particular. As their roles have been reviewed, revised and even rewritten by historians over the centuries, it is Chapuys' reputation that has suffered. Today he is remembered for his intensely personal feelings towards these two women; one he championed, and the other he strenuously opposed.

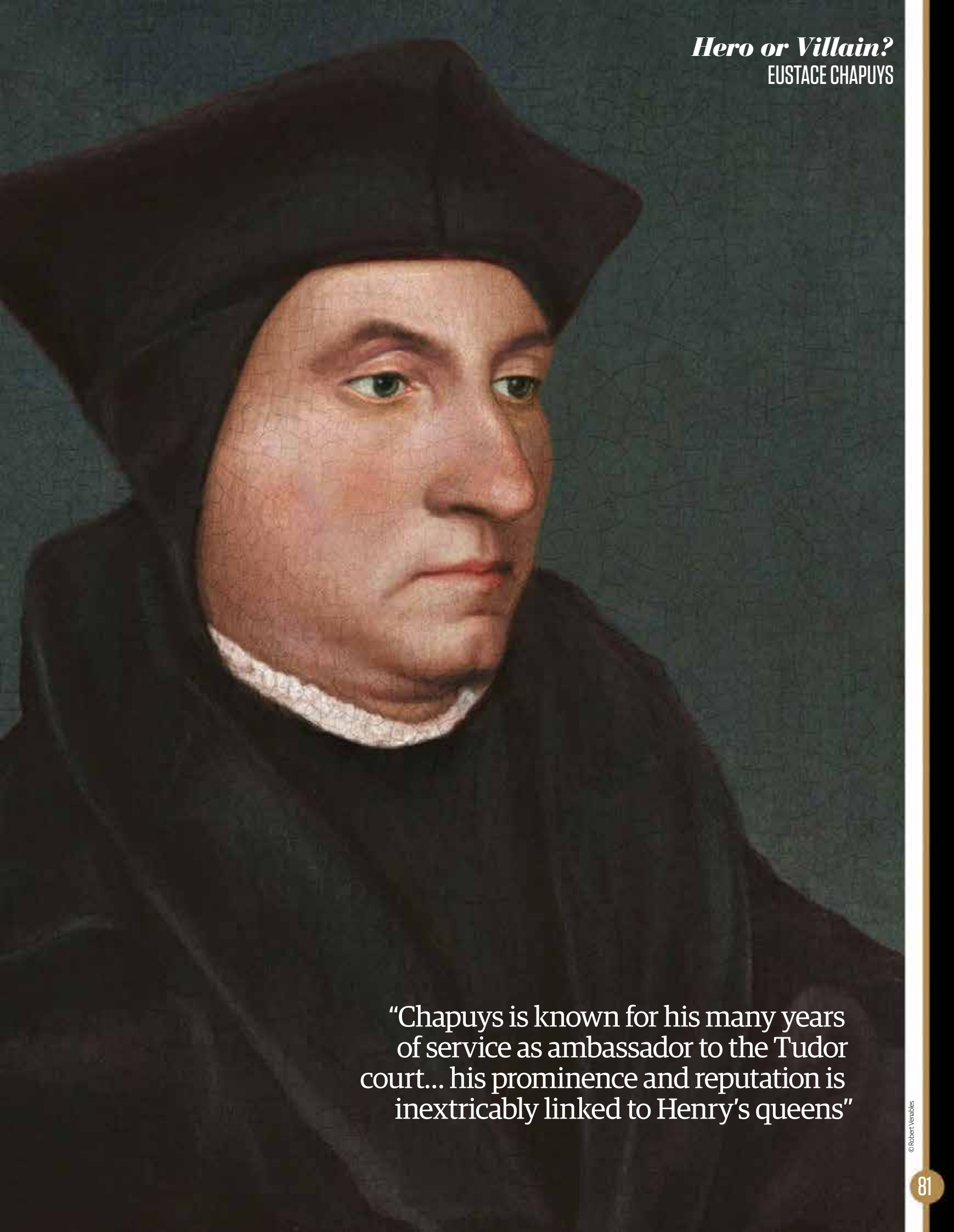
When Chapuys first arrived in London in September 1529, it was at a time when Henry VIII's court was in chaos. The king was madly in love with Anne Boleyn, and wanted to make her his queen. But he already had a queen - Katherine of Aragon. Henry's brilliant advisor, Cardinal Wolsey, was employing every strategy possible to extricate his king from his marriage. Katherine, despondent and with few supporters, began to wilt under the pressure from both Wolsey and her husband. She needed reinforcements.

Defining moment

Charles V appoints Chapuys as Imperial ambassador

Being chosen to represent one of the most powerful men in Europe was a significant career opportunity and Chapuys assumed he would spend several months as ambassador before returning home. But Chapuys never saw his family or hometown again. He was so vital to Charles that he spent over 15 years in England, and was one of the most successful ambassadors of the period.

1529



“Chapuys is known for his many years of service as ambassador to the Tudor court... his prominence and reputation is inextricably linked to Henry’s queens”

Hero or Villain?

EUSTACE CHAPUYS



Thomas Cromwell, Tudor Statesman and Henry VIII's right-hand man



Holy Roman Emperor Charles V and Charles I of Spain



Anne Boleyn, Henry VIII's second wife, was executed in 1536

Desperately, Katherine searched for an advocate who would champion her interests while cultivating relationships with the power brokers of the court. They must also have legal and canonical training, since the issues surrounding the marital status of Henry VIII and Katherine now involved legal and religious arguments. Remarkably, Eustace Chapuys ticked all of these boxes. Chapuys was an accomplished Savoyard canon and civil lawyer, with more than a decade of legal and diplomatic experience in the hothouse of European courts. He was by all accounts charming but also had a steely disposition, and could scheme almost as well as Wolsey. He was the ideal ambassador for the task, and few men in the Imperial service could equal him.

While conflicting accounts of Katherine's character have been drawn from the bitter divorce with Henry, it is through Chapuys' despatches

that she is revealed to us as a defiant and fearless queen, as well as a vulnerable and desolate wife. Discarded by her husband and the English court, Chapuys became her counsellor, advisor, advocate, life coach and window to the world. She

wrote to her nephew, Charles V,

"You could not have chosen a better ambassador, his wisdom encourages and comforts me, and when my councillors through fear hesitate to answer the charges against me, he is always ready to undertake the burden of my defence... I consider him deserving of all your favour."

Historians have claimed that Chapuys encouraged Katherine to defy Henry, but this was not the case. Like any good lawyer, he more often urged her to be cautious; in his reports to Charles he regretted that, despite his counsel, Katherine seemed even more determined to fight Henry, regardless of what it might cost her and her daughter, Princess Mary. Chapuys worried that

there might be a backlash from Henry if Katherine continued to influence her daughter, particularly when she urged Mary to rebel against her father and take her side. While Mary was at times a pawn in a bitter game between her parents, her happiness was as important to the ambassador as Katherine's health. He went beyond his duty as advisor and became more personally involved with Mary, writing to her and sending her books from his personal library, or ones he had purchased in London. These were the only gifts he knew would lift her mood.

He would continue to protect Mary throughout his embassy and he judged Henry's subsequent queens by their treatment of her. Chapuys was as much Mary's champion as he was Katherine's. But it is not Chapuys' treatment of the mother and daughter that have had the greatest impact on his reputation, but rather his disposition towards Katherine's replacement, Anne Boleyn. Anne has enjoyed an extensive rehabilitation over the last 100 years, with an enviable following of devotees who even today commemorate her execution date with great solemnity. As such, Chapuys' character, as a detractor of the queen, has come into question.

There were countless letters and reports that flew across Europe between ambassadors and monarchs

Defining moment

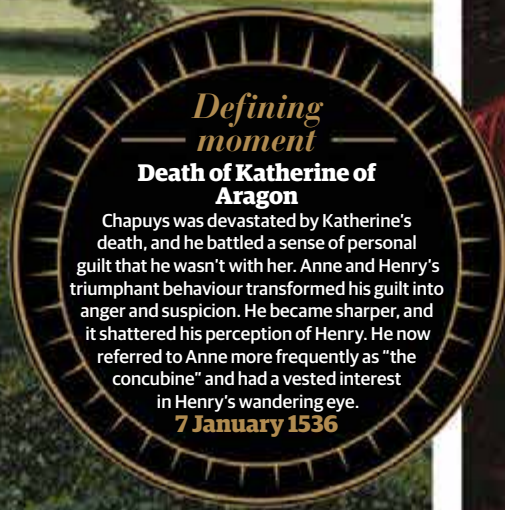
Chapuys and Thomas Cromwell

Chapuys and Cromwell had a rather complex friendship. Yet when they were able to lay politics aside, they hunted and dined together. It was a meeting of minds, and they would lend each other books, and enjoyed discussing tapestries, art, and scholarship. Cromwell's execution in 1540 had a huge impact on Chapuys, and as the friend of a traitor, he was viewed with suspicion.

1531-1540



Kimbolton Castle in Cambridgeshire was where Katherine of Aragon spent the last months of her life



Defining moment

Death of Katherine of Aragon

Chapuys was devastated by Katherine's death, and he battled a sense of personal guilt that he wasn't with her. Anne and Henry's triumphant behaviour transformed his guilt into anger and suspicion. He became sharper, and it shattered his perception of Henry. He now referred to Anne more frequently as "the concubine" and had a vested interest in Henry's wandering eye.

7 January 1536



Katherine of Aragon greatly admired Chapuys for his wisdom and support

"When Anne was arrested on Cromwell's charges... Chapuys was one of the few who publicly declared that she was innocent"

detailing the progress of Anne's affair with Henry, and Chapuys was perhaps one of the most prolific of these writers. But some of the most vitriolic reports about Anne's appearance - and what was considered objectionable behaviour - were written by French, Venetian and Spanish embassies. Anne was a favourite subject for the rumour mill and provided colourful gossip. Since the 19th century, historians have depicted Chapuys as a gossip and a prude, who was so disgusted by Anne's determination to usurp Katherine that he only referred to her as "the whore" or "concubine", and that he worked to destroy her, and even rejoiced at her death. But he has been miscast as a villain.

Chapuys arrived in 1529 and, in his letters and reports, refers to Anne as Madame or Lady Anne, or simply, the Lady. He refers to her as "the Concubine" in just one heated letter in 1533, and then not again until 1535. His counterpart in Rome, however, Pedro Ortiz, wrote quite vitriolic reports about Anne to Chapuys and Charles. In most of his

letters, Ortiz referred to Anne as "the concubine", and did so as early as 1531. It would seem that historians have confused the two ambassadors. He may have judged Anne poorly for her treatment of Katherine and her daughter, Mary, but it is most telling is that when Anne was arrested on Thomas Cromwell's trumped-up charges of treason and adultery, Chapuys was one of the few who publicly declared that she was innocent, and a victim of a political coup. Anne's execution haunted him.

Crucially, Chapuys addressed the charge, which has long stained Anne's reputation and that of her brother: the accusation of incest. He refused to believe a word of it, reporting that "no proof of his [George's] guilt was produced except that of his having once passed many hours in her company, and other little follies." He felt her execution and that of the five men condemned with her was unconscionable. Beyond the unwanted annulment and the jealous squabbles, Chapuys believed she was innocent and his final description of Anne is

testimony to his deeply held view of her: "No one ever showed more courage or greater readiness to meet death than she did."

Through Chapuys' despatches, Anne Boleyn emerges as an enticingly unique creature: intelligent, ambitious and impetuous. Chapuys stayed in England throughout Henry's reign, and his reports of each of Henry's wives remain some of our most valuable and treasured accounts, as he stripped away the mantle of queenship to reveal six unique women. He wrote of Jane Seymour's skillful way of managing Henry, and her role as a peacemaker at court; of Anne of Cleve's graceful decorum; he pitied the doomed Catherine Howard, who had the potential to be a successful Tudor queen; and greatly admired Henry's sixth wife, Catharine Parr, whose deep affection for Mary was a relief to the ambassador. Chapuys should be remembered as a principled, passionate, and dedicated ambassador, whose sketches captured the life, colour and texture of the Tudor court.

Was Eustace Chapuys a hero or a villain? Let us know what you think

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Interview

DANE OF THRONES

Sharpe creator Bernard Cornwell reveals the inspiration behind
TV's epic Saxon saga *The Last Kingdom*

Interview by Peter Price





The year is 878, and England is a patchwork land of

kingdoms and lordships where power is won or lost on the edge of a sword. The Anglo-Saxon kingdom of Wessex

stands alone, with King Alfred and his Anglo-Saxon warriors ready to meet the might of the Great Heathen Army.

This is the epic backdrop for *The Last Kingdom*, which follows Uhtred of Bebbanburg. He's a man of two worlds, both Viking and Anglo-Saxon, who seeks vengeance against those who have wronged him. A story of love, treachery and friendship, Uhtred travels the length of the British Isles to recapture his ancestral lands of Bebbanburg.

The TV show is an adaptation of the bestselling series *The Saxon Stories*, written by Bernard Cornwell. Bernard is no stranger to having his work adapted for the small screen with the swashbuckling *Sharpe*, set during the Napoleonic Wars, becoming an instant hit.

Ahead of *The Last Kingdom Season 2* DVD and Blu-ray release, we spoke to Bernard to find out his thoughts on the show, and how his surprising family history inspired the story.

What made you want to tell the story of the creation of England?

It all started when I was a student, 50 years ago. I started reading Anglo-Saxon poetry and fell in love with the culture. It dawned on me over the years that we, the English, don't tend to know our own history. The schoolbooks would start at 1066 or maybe a bit before that, dealing with Alfred's burnt cakes, but that's it. I didn't know how England was created but I had a few thoughts and ideas.

I suppose that all historical novels have a big story and a little story. Take *Gone with the Wind* - the small story is Scarlett and Ashley, and the big story is the backdrop of the American Civil War. The little story is put front and centre, and is almost always total fiction. I knew I wanted to write a book set against the creation of England, but I didn't have a little story.

Then about 16 years ago I met my real father, who turned out to have the last name Oughtred and a family tree stretching all the way back to the 6th century. In it I found these characters called Uthred, who were lords of Bebbanburg, and I wondered how the hell these men, Anglo-Saxons, could hold onto Bebbanburg in the middle of Danish Northumbria? I knew I wanted to write the story of Uhtred, and so it became the little story.

So you wouldn't have written Uhtred into another culture or time period due to the personal links?

It's a story about the creation of England. If you and I were having a conversation in 880 and I said we

live in England, you would have looked at me as if I was mad; it would probably have meant absolutely nothing at all to you. If you asked the question 50 years on, you would get an answer, so something happened in those 50 years, and it was very bloody and brutal, but that is the story of the creation of England.

The Last Kingdom features a strong cast. After seeing the actor's depictions of your characters, have your perceptions of any of them changed?

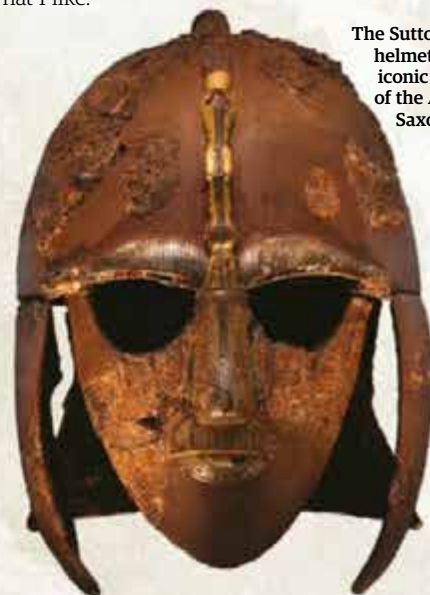
Probably not and I'll tell you why. The ones who would have probably changed my perspective were David Dawson playing Alfred, and Adrian Bower playing Leofric. But these characters have now died in the books, so I'm not writing about those characters anymore, and the ones I am writing about haven't joined the story yet. It's in no way a criticism; it's just the way the writing and production have gone.

There's a fine line between historical accuracy and entertainment. Have you ever had to compromise on storytelling because of historical events that you did not want to modify or vice-versa?

The answer to that is yes, but not very often with these books. The reason for that is that we don't know as much as we would like. We know quite a lot about Alfred because of Asser's *Life Of King Alfred*, his own writing, and the Anglo-Saxon chronicle. But once Alfred dies in 899 it's almost as if the lights go out. The Anglo-Saxon chronicle

can be incredibly difficult sometimes. For example, it tells us the Great Heathen Army came to Britain and by the 'Grace of God' was defeated, but you don't get any information on how they were defeated or who led them.

There isn't a tightly written framework for history that I can draw ideas and write from, so it gives me a lot of freedom. The obvious point being that the series is due to end at the Battle of Brunanburh in 937, but we don't even know where that was fought. We know it took place, as it's mentioned in several chronicles and have some of the names of kings who fought there, but we don't know anything about it, like where or how it was fought. This gives a historical writer like me a chance to do what I like.



The Sutton Hoo helmet is the iconic image of the Anglo-Saxon Age

"I SUPPOSE THAT ALL HISTORICAL NOVELS HAVE A BIG STORY AND A LITTLE STORY"



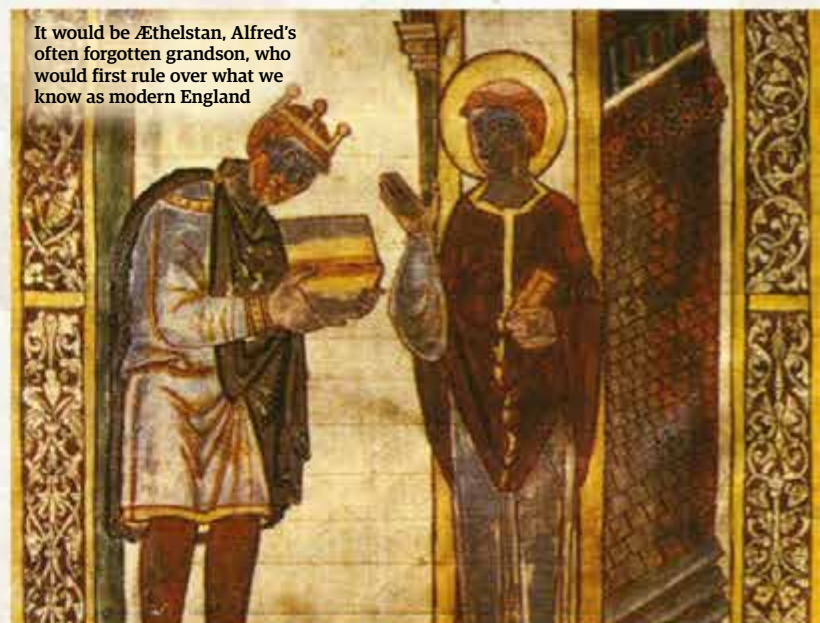
Uhtred arrives in York shortly after the Anglo-Saxon population revolted against their Danish overlords



The Anglo-Saxons send a chilling message to the Danes



Hild, Sihtric and Halig are among Uhtred's most faithful companions



It would be Æthelstan, Alfred's often forgotten grandson, who would first rule over what we know as modern England

So is it more difficult to write on subjects like the Napoleonic Wars or the American Civil War, as we have much more complete records of almost all aspects of these conflicts?

In some ways, and I do sometimes take liberties with history. When I was writing *Sharpe's Sword*, which culminates in the Battle of Salamanca, so much is just given to you by history, and in some ways this makes it very easy. The only time I've ever felt constrained by the real history and something that I couldn't take liberties on was when I was writing about the American Revolution. As I was living in America, I was invading the high ground of American myth, and you have to be very, very careful. The second of those books was called *The Fort*, and told the truth about Paul Revere, one of the great heroes of the American Revolution. Yet he only fought the British once, and was subsequently court-martialled by his own side for cowardice and incompetence.

Not many Americans know this, but we have all the records, and I didn't dare change anything, even though at some points it would have been easier to play fast and loose with the facts. I didn't

do it because I knew in a sense I was writing for a hostile audience, and didn't want to offend anyone.

Some of your novels include appendices to give the reader a historical overview of events that run parallel to your stories. Do you feel it's important to give this information to provide context for your story?

I feel that historical novels are a gateway to history, and some people who might not be interested in history normally can access it this way. Remember that I'm not a historian; I'm a storyteller. I always say that, but I know that if people read one of my books and want to know more, you have to give them guidance and point them in the direction of some books on the subject. If they're not interested, who cares? When I was a kid I read the *Hornblower* books by C S Forester, and then went on to read a lot of non-fiction, and that of course in turn spawned *Sharpe*.

When choosing a new topic or time period, do you begin researching by reading non-fiction?

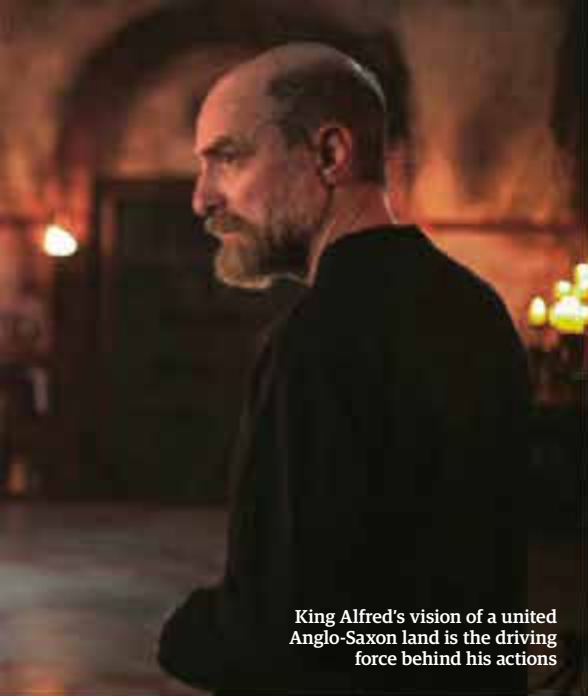
Not really; research is a lifelong thing. The facts and ideas started 50 years ago reading Anglo-Saxon poetry, and from there it went on to reading whatever there was to read. Now there isn't much to read about the Saxon period than there is in, say, the Napoleonic Wars, and I don't read up on fiction, as I don't want to poison the well. I *always* try and visit a location where my stories are set, but this isn't always possible or helpful.

Are you interested in becoming more hands-on with *The Last Kingdom* moving forward?

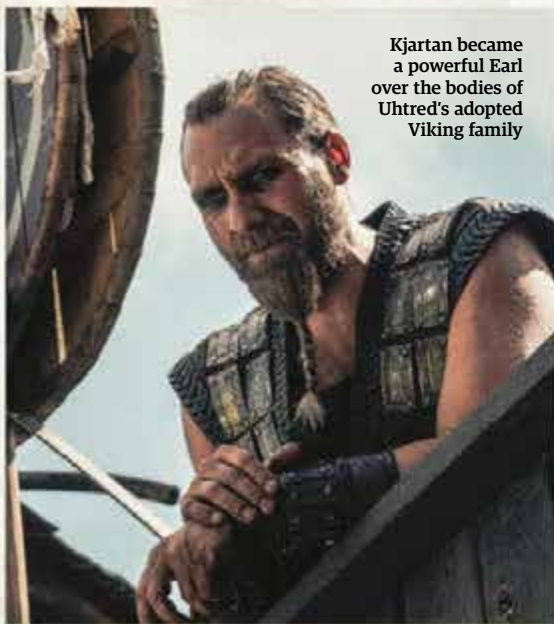
Absolutely not. I have a wonderful agreement with Carnival Films: they don't write the books and I don't write the TV series. I worked in television for 11 years, and so I know a lot about it, more than most people. I was a producer and ran my own programs, but I never produced drama; I know nothing about producing or directing TV drama. These people made *Downton Abbey*, and have such creativity and efficiency - what could I tell them? Any involvement by me is going to be an obstacle at worst, or a diversion at best. We're good friends, and I'm very happy to let them get on with it.

ANGLO-SAXON ENGLAND

By the 9th century the British Isles had become a fierce battleground between the Anglo-Saxons and the encroaching Vikings



King Alfred's vision of a united Anglo-Saxon land is the driving force behind his actions



Kjartan became a powerful Earl over the bodies of Uhtred's adopted Viking family

Out of all the periods you have written about, which one is your favourite?

Whichever one I'm writing at the time.

Do you have a favourite character from *The Saxon Stories*?

Uhtred - he's my ancestor so I'm very close to him.

Finally, do you side with Anglo-Saxons or the Vikings?

I'm with Uhtred. I have enormous sympathy for the Danes, but like Uhtred I'm going to fight with the Anglo-Saxons.

THE LAST KINGDOM
SEASON TWO IS
AVAILABLE ON BLU-RAY
AND DVD FROM
8 MAY 2017, COURTESY
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PICTURES (UK).



Northumbria

Allegiance: Viking/Anglo-Saxon

Like Mercia, Northumbria's power and influence had been in steady decline in the 8th and 9th century. The sub kingdom of Deira was captured by the Vikings, and became the powerful Kingdom of York.

Battle of Brunanburh 937

Often seen as the battle that united England, the clash at Brunanburh saw Alfred's grandson, King Æthelstan, successfully face off against an alliance of Vikings, Britons and Scots. Even though it is such an important battle, no one can agree on where exactly it was fought.



Danelaw

Allegiance: Viking

The area of England settled by the Northmen and subject to Danish laws, hence its name. After many years of bloodshed, the remainder of the Danelaw comes back into the Saxon fold by the 11th century.

Alba

Allegiance: N/A

Scotland as we know it today did not exist in the 9th century. The land was divided into kingdoms belonging to the native Britons, Scots, Anglo-Saxons and Vikings.

Wessex

Allegiance: Anglo-Saxon

The strongest Anglo-Saxon kingdom, currently led by King Alfred. Through a series of military might and legal reforms, Alfred moulds Wessex into a beacon of safety and learning in this turbulent land.

Battle of Edington 878

It was at Edington that Alfred and his army threw the Vikings out of Wessex. The breathing space afforded by this allowed the defences of Wessex to be greatly upgraded, limiting future Viking raids.

Mercia

Allegiance: Viking/Anglo-Saxon

An Anglo-Saxon kingdom in its twilight years due to increasing Viking attacks eating into its territory. The Mercian kings would come to be ruled over by Wessex, and the kingdom would lose its independence and identity in the 10th and 11th centuries.

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How to make... SILK ROAD YUM CHA

TEA AND DUMPLINGS CHINA, 960-PRESENT

The Chinese word 'yum cha' is the name given to the meal of dim sum, the delicious dumplings that are still popular across the world today. 'Dim sum' means to touch the heart, and 'yum cha' literally translates as 'to drink tea,' which has been drunk recreationally in China since the Sung Dynasty (960-1280). The small and delectable delicacies were once created for emperors and enjoyed by China's elite, however the tradition of enjoying tea and dumplings together originates along the Silk Road, the ancient trade route connecting China and Asia to the Mediterranean. Teahouses along the well-trodden routes would entice hungry travellers in to sample their wares with tasty small snacks to accompany their tea.

Ingredients

For the filling

- 240g raw shrimp (peeled and de-veined)
- 1 tsp oyster sauce
- 1 tsp sesame oil
- Large pinch of white pepper
- Large pinch of salt
- 1 tsp sugar
- ½ tsp minced fresh ginger
- 60g finely chopped bamboo shoots

For the dough

- 120ml water
- 110g wheat starch
- 85g tapioca flour
- Small pinch of salt
- 2 teaspoons vegetable oil

Did you know?

While eating yum cha, when someone refills your tea you should tap the table with bent index and middle fingers to show your appreciation!

METHOD

01 Begin your har gow (dumpling) by making the filling. To start, coarsely chop the shrimp and add to a bowl along with the oyster sauce, sesame oil, white pepper, salt, sugar and ginger. Stir well to combine.

02 When the mixture begins to look a bit sticky, add in the bamboo shoots and then mix well. Cover the bowl and set aside in the fridge while you make your dough.

03 For the dough, mix the dry ingredients (wheat starch, tapioca flour and salt) together in a large bowl. Then bring the water to the boil and add it, along with the oil, to the mixture.

04 Mix with a spatula until a loose dough is formed, and then while the dough is still hot but cool

enough to touch, turn it out and knead for a few minutes until it's smooth.

05 Roll your dough into a long sausage and then using a sharp knife, cut it into small sections about 2.5 centimetres across. Cover these dough balls with a damp cloth to prevent them drying out. Now it's time to make your dumplings!

06 Before assembling the dumplings, make sure your steamer is ready to go. Traditional bamboo steamers are inexpensive and available from Oriental supermarkets – make sure you line the bottom with parchment paper or cheesecloth to stop your dumplings from sticking.

07 Roll each dough ball into a thin, flat circle about six centimetres in diameter with a small rolling

pin (lightly flour your work surface to avoid them sticking). To prevent them drying while you work you can cover them with cling film.

08 Place a small tablespoon of filling in the middle of the dough and carefully bring the edges together in a series of pleats at the top, finishing in a crescent shape. Alternatively, you can fold the dough in half over the filling and then crimp with a fork.

09 To cook, simply place your dumplings in the prepared steamer and leave for seven minutes. Serve and enjoy straight away!

REVIEWS

All About History on the books, TV shows and
films causing a stir in the history world

ALEXANDER HAMILTON: THE MAKING OF AMERICA

An introduction to the Founding Father and subject of Broadway's hit musical

Author Teri Kanefield **Publisher** Abrams Books **Price** £11.99 **Released** Out now

Without a doubt, Alexander Hamilton is one of the most influential men in American history. A skilled writer and orator, Founding Father and fierce defender of the Constitution, he left his signature on the very foundations of the United States. As the creator of the central Bank of America, the Coast Guard and the New York Post, much of Hamilton's work still exists, and thrives, to this day.

Hamilton endured many struggles - he fought to pursue a college education, rose through the ranks of the Continental Army, worked to unite the colonies into a united nation and transform it into a country that could rival the likes of England and France. This book is a beginner's guide to the Founding Father everyone's talking about - released in time for the Broadway musical's debut in London later this year.

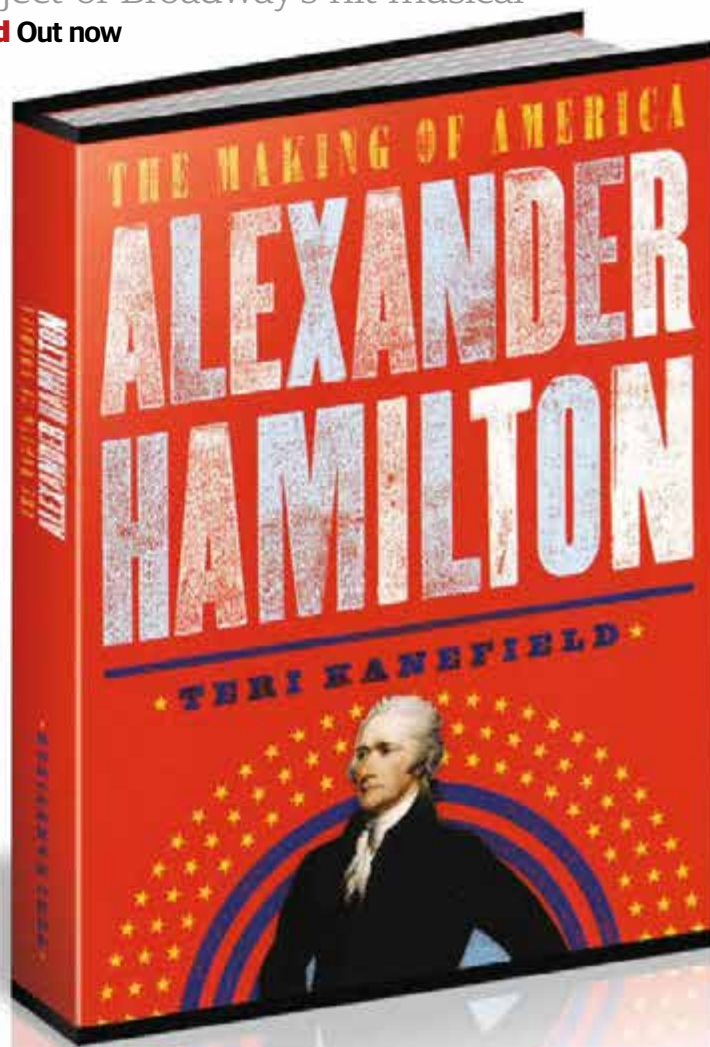
Informative and thorough, author Teri Kanefield takes us through Hamilton's impoverished beginnings. Born on the tiny island of Nevis in the British West Indies, he was left, orphaned and alone, after his father abandoned him and his mother died.

Emigrating to New York City, Hamilton's determination to succeed saw him become the first Secretary of the Treasury for George Washington and go on to help shape the country. We learn of his insatiable appetite for education, his vision for a multi-racial and capitalistic America, as well as his dramatic death on the duelling field at the hands of a political rival.

Far from a dusty list of facts and figures, Kanefield explores Hamilton's complex relationships with presidents George Washington, John Adams and Thomas Jefferson and, most importantly, the person who would eventually take Hamilton's life: Vice President Aaron Burr. The ingenious writings of Hamilton himself are included throughout, supporting the story with extracts from letters and journals, giving readers an insight into the mind of the man of the ten-dollar bill.

Aimed at a young adult audience, Kanefield has organised the sprawling story into chapters that tackle the most important elements of Hamilton's life, as well as accompanying images, establishing order to what could otherwise be a chaotic timeline of events. Occasionally the way the information is displayed can detract from the flow of the story, with large fonts and quirky black and white illustrations throughout.

There are also plenty of short explanations of related subjects and concepts, from checks and balances, to law and electoral processes during the late 18th century, as well as definitions of phrases used in Hamilton's musings. This makes for a very accessible read that will appeal to all ages, but if you're after a comprehensive history that delves into every inch of the Founding Father's life, then pick up Ron Chernow's mammoth biography *Alexander Hamilton*, instead. However, if it's a reference guide or an overview of his life and legacy you need, then this is simple and concise enough to get you going.



"Ingenious writings of Hamilton himself are included throughout, supporting the story with extracts from letters and journals"

THE PRIVATE LIVES OF THE TUDORS

An intimate look at Britain's favourite dynasty

Author Tracy Borman **Publisher** Hodder & Stoughton **Price** £9.99 **Released** Out now

In this latest publication, Tracy Borman presents a fresh perspective of a familiar period, to provide readers with a view of the Tudors they may not have previously considered. Instead of comprehensively retelling the famous events of the day, Borman takes us inside the intimate parts of the palaces and provides a peek at daily life, complete with all its not-so-glorious moments. You won't learn about how each monarch ruled, but you will discover how they dressed, ate, and behaved behind closed doors.

Those who have romantically envisioned an idyllic Tudor England, with its resplendent court attended by lavishly dressed women and chivalrous men, will find much to enjoy in this book. However, the author doesn't conceal the less-than-desirable truth that lies beneath.

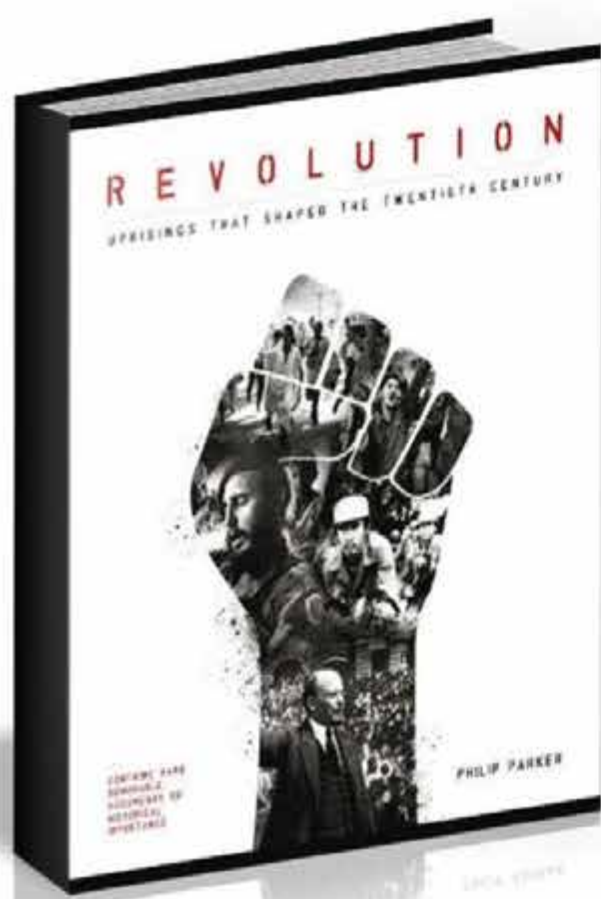
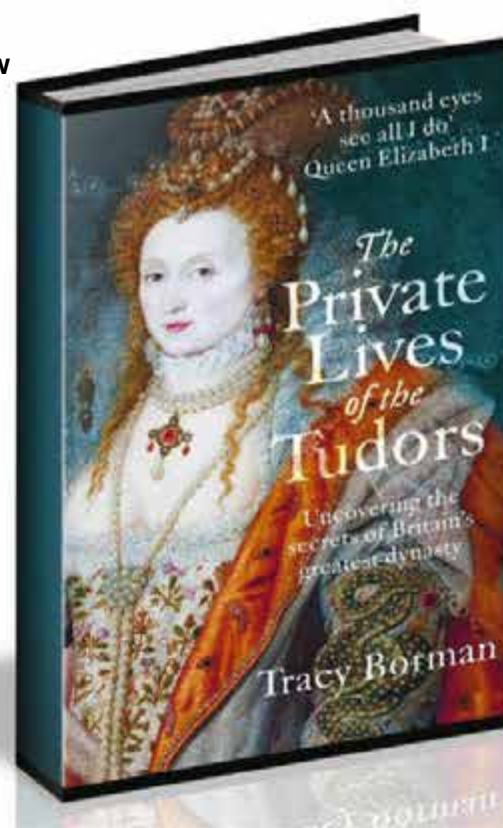
Numerous sought-after positions of the court brought men and women close to their monarchs, but also included duties that were anything but splendid. For example, some will be surprised to learn that when Henry VIII went to the lavatory, he wasn't alone. A strict diet of wine and meat meant

that the Groom of the Stool had the all-important job of attending the king's bowel movements.

Rules of etiquette, household budgets, and personal breakdowns are all revealed here, leaving the reader with a humanised view of the royal family. It has become easy to slip into the mindset of a sexy candle-lit drama when reading about the Tudors, but Borman brings us back to Earth with her no-nonsense exposure of real life.

As the cover of this book suggests, a significant portion is focused upon Elizabeth I, the final and longest reigning Tudor monarch. However, those who are often ignored receive close attention as well. Henry Tudor, the father of the Tudor dynasty, and his wife, Elizabeth of York, are covered satisfactorily, as is Mary I. A closer look may make readers more sympathetic to these monarchs.

This book will be especially enjoyed by those who are curious about what life in Tudor England truly encompassed on a daily basis. It is also a satisfying read for those who would like an overview of the dynasty without getting lost in political details.



REVOLUTION: UPRISINGS THAT SHAPED THE TWENTIETH CENTURY

Taking the power back

Author Philip Parker **Publisher** Andre Deutsch **Price** £30 **Released** Out now

It's hard to recall a time in the last few centuries - or millennia, for that matter - in which society hasn't been in a state of constant upheaval. There are multiple contributory factors for this state of being, but one of the primary catalysts for this is the revolution, and the consequences that inevitably follow.

It is here in which Philip Parker presents an overview of some of the major instances of this phenomenon to have taken place during the 20th century, from the 1911 Xinhai Revolution and the rise of Lenin and Stalin in Russia, all the way through to the collapse of communism in Eastern Europe and the Iranian Revolution. It's interspersed with images and removable reproductions of relevant historical documents.

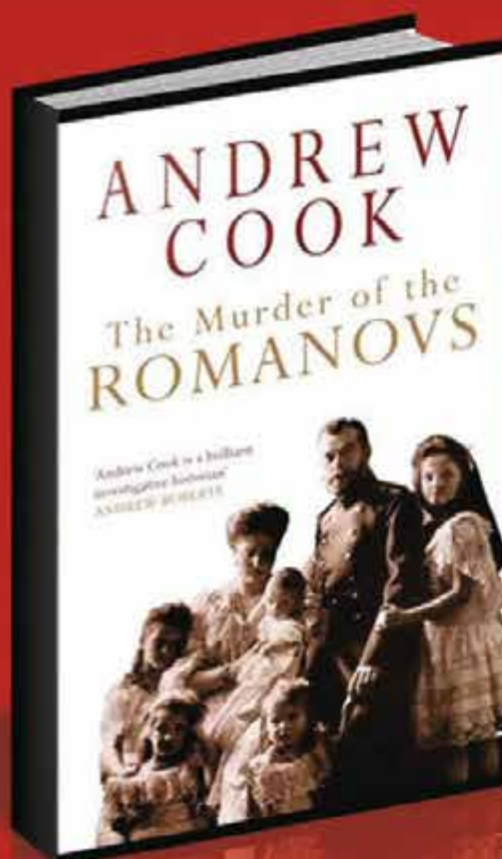
It's striking enough - top marks for the cover art - but how does it function as a historical text? In truth, it's fairly

rudimentary - almost too much so, in fact.

The book squeezes 18 flash points into its 64 pages, not leaving a great deal of room to do the subject matter justice.

As anyone who has studied - or indeed, experienced first-hand - any of the events included within its pages, revolutions are far from simple matters, informed by years of simmering tensions and contributory factors boiling together in one unhealthy concoction. As a result, attempts to distil the events down to the bare essentials aren't always successful, often leaving the bigger picture unclear as a consequence.

If you're a seasoned student of these events then it should be easy enough to understand, but in truth it isn't aimed at you; relative novices to the subject matter are the targets here. While the attempt to make this topic accessible is admirable, it's debatable whether the aim has been met.



THE MURDER OF THE ROMANOVS

The fate of Russia's most infamous dynasty takes centre stage again

Author Andrew Cook Publisher Amberley Publishing

Price £8.99 Released Out now

Few people are unaware of the tragic fates of Tsar Nicholas II of Russia and his young family, who were murdered by Bolsheviks on 17 July 1918. In this work, Andrew Cook revisits the events that led up to this fateful day, as well as the confusion, rumours and scientific investigations that followed.

Drawing on new records discovered in British and Russian archives, as well as detailed forensic investigations, Cook attempts to unravel what really happened, investigate failed rescue attempts, and lay to rest the many myths surrounding their execution.

Unsurprisingly, Cook opts to open *The Murder Of The Romanovs* with perhaps the most famous member of the family, Anastasia. It is a shrewd move and, with Anna Anderson's

story anchoring the narrative, Cook embarks on the history of Nicholas II and his family. The complex and tangled history of Russia is related in an accessible style that is ideal for any reader seeking an intro to one of the most notorious episodes of the country's past.

Through meticulous research, Cook ably evokes the chaos of the era, as well as the conflicting demands and duties of neighbouring royal houses who refused to offer asylum to the deposed Romanovs. Refreshingly, Cook doesn't regard the royals as romantic heroes and they are represented here in very human terms, far from the saintly figures that they often become. This makes his book recommendable to those seeking a highly readable investigation of this infamous event.

HISTORY WAR RECOMMENDS...

Special Forces Berlin

Author: James Stejskal **Price:** £16.58
Publisher: Casemate



Berlin during The Cold War was deep in enemy territory, linked to the West by a narrow land corridor bristling with armed guards. The city's west side was seen as an island of

Liberal Democracy in an ocean of Soviet Communism. It was here that the US military stationed a highly classified clandestine special forces unit for almost 50 years.

Having served twice with this secret unit, it's perhaps no surprise that author James Stejskal tells its hitherto unknown story with authority. He takes us through the formation and evolution of the group, describing various training exercises, and revealing some of the actual reconnaissance missions they carried out behind the Iron Curtain.

THE RITUALS OF DINNER

Everything you need to know about your mealtime history, from the Ancient Greeks to cannibalism and picnics

Author Margaret Visser Publisher Random Penguin House

Price £9.99 Released Out now

How has society come to place so much importance on what we do at dinner? Margaret Visser first published her book *The Rituals Of Dinner* in 1991. The book, which has sold more than 44,000 copies since its release is now back, having been reissued for its 25th anniversary.

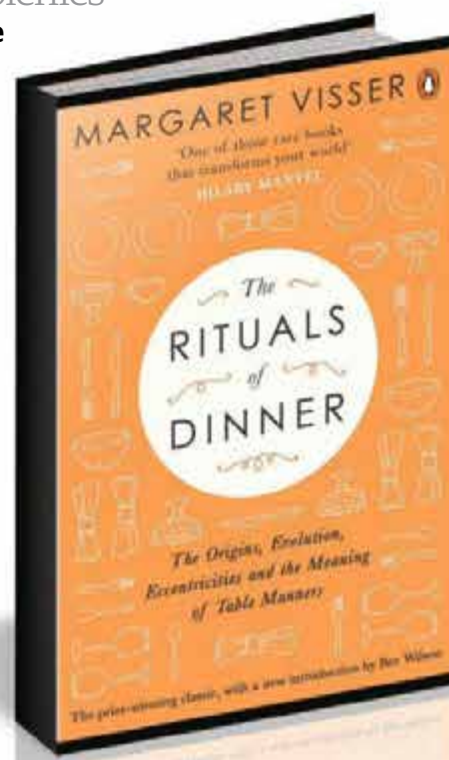
For those who haven't had the pleasure of reading Visser's culinary works, the book is an interesting study on the world's eating habits, from where we eat, to whom we should invite to feast at our table.

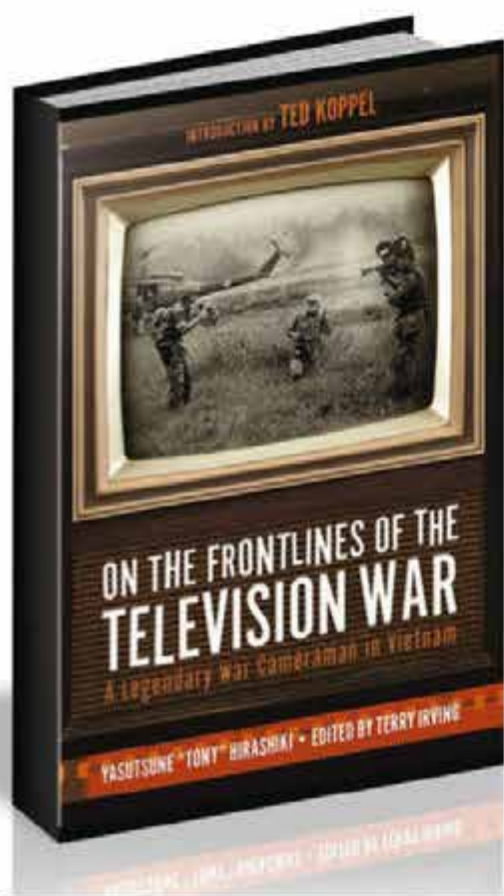
Every event that has broken new ground at the dining table is unearthed, and Visser turns a seemingly mundane day-to-day activity into a scholarly discussion - from Ancient Greece to modern

Europe, from the invention of the plate, to the importance placed on the knife and fork. It's not about how you hold cutlery correctly, but rather how these implements originated and the history of dinner table rules and customs.

The author's writing is entertaining and filled with trivia and knowledge to no doubt impress friends and family. If you think this subject runs the risk of turning stale, however, you are very much mistaken, as Visser discusses how technology is changing the way we eat and our behaviour at the dinner table.

It is easy to see why this book has been so hugely popular over the last two decades. Each page presents a memorable fact and every chapter is a new corner of the proverbial dining table.





ON THE FRONTLINES OF THE TELEVISION WAR

Memoirs of a cameraman on the frontline in Vietnam

Author Yasutsune "Tony" Hirashiki **Publisher** Casemate

Price £25 **Released** Out now

Wartime cameraman Yasutsune "Tony" Hirashiki cut his teeth in the pyrrhic battlefields of Vietnam. Whether he was truly fearless or supremely focused on the task at hand, it's hard to tell.

In the decade spent sweating his way through booby-trap infested jungle or dodging artillery and bullets on the frontline, where many of his contemporaries were killed or seriously injured, Hirashiki suffered no more than a cut on his chin caused by a toppling camera.

Nonetheless his work consistently helped to pull in the ratings for his employer, the ABC network, and there was never any question of his dedication to his job

"I like to tell people about the bravest man I ever met," comes a ringing endorsement from the same Vietnam war reporter stock as Hirashiki, former news correspondent Roger Peterson. "He's a Japanese cameraman who didn't even come up

to my shoulder but I never saw him back away or even flinch when the shooting started."

This work is Hirashiki's vivid account of his time in Vietnam – and it's a damn good one. His story, detailing first how he got the job, then eventually rose to prominence in the industry, has a Forrest Gump feel-good factor to it.

Young Hirashiki's perpetual optimism initially appears as blissful ignorance: there was a degree of luck involved in acquiring some of the footage he shot (as well as not getting shot in the process) but it swiftly becomes clear that being lucky wasn't the defining characteristic of his career.

Overall, *On The Frontlines Of The Television War* provides a very different perspective of the Vietnam War, from a TV cameraman whose memoirs are as equally emotive and insightful as the dozens of newsreels that set his work apart from the staid 'bang-bang' war drama of other news networks of the time.

THE REVOLUTIONARY LIFE OF FREDA BEDI

A tremendous tale of a British woman defying racial, religious and social boundaries for the greater good

Editor Vicki Mackenzie **Publisher** Shambhala Publications

Price £13.58 **Released** Out now

When Freda Houlston, a Western woman born in patriarchal post-war Britain, married her Indian-born husband Baba Pyare Lal Bedi, it was the first of many pioneering and revolutionary acts she would embark on in her lifetime.

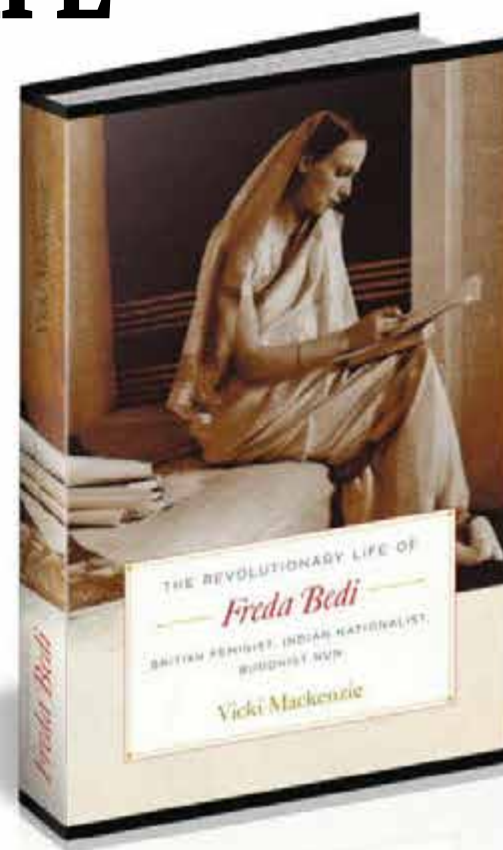
After graduating from Oxford in the 1930s the newlyweds moved across the ocean to the groom's homeland and fought to free India from British imperialism at all costs. Following the guidance of Gandhi, Freda became his 57th satyagrahi (one who follows and pursues truth) and was thrown into prison for speaking out against the government in what was deemed a lengthy and harsh sentence for a woman.

Incarceration did little to silence Freda and upon her release she became something of a national hero. She dedicated her life to helping the downtrodden and India's poorest achieve greatness. In her later years she became the first

Western woman to become a fully ordained Tibetan Buddhist nun. Mackenzie's book on one of the most revolutionary women in India's history is thoroughly gripping.

Reading like a historic novel, the author – a veteran British journalist – creates fantastic imagery, transporting the reader to World War II era India. We discover both Freda's personal struggles in choosing a life of revolution, such as the death of her son during an epidemic that was sweeping Punjab at the time, for which Freda was not present, and also her struggle to fight for what she believed at a crucial turning point in India's history.

Although Mackenzie was not able to speak to the revolutionary herself before she died in 1977, she has managed to track down those who best knew the 'Divine Mother', creating a wonderful patchwork of memories to tell the tales of Freda's remarkable life. This story is inspiring, insightful and comes highly recommended.



HISTORY ANSWERS

Send your questions to questions@historyanswers.co.uk



The door of Number 10 still has the original letterbox, engraved 'First Lord of the Treasury' for Robert Walpole

Why does the prime minister always live at 10 Downing Street?

Olivia Townsend

Number 10 Downing Street was given by King George II to Robert Walpole in 1735. Walpole is generally regarded as the first prime minister of Britain, although his title was First Lord of the Treasury in those days. Walpole refused to accept the house as a personal gift, however, and insisted that it should be the official residence of all future first lords of the treasury. As well as Number 10, the gift included a much larger house behind it, overlooking horse guards. The Downing Street house was originally much more cheaply built, with painted-on mortar lines to make the bricks look more even.

Walpole employed architect William Kent to completely refurbish both houses and connect them on two stories, so that the main entrance of the combined residence now faced onto Downing Street. The original numbering scheme in Downing Street was quite haphazard, and the prime minister's house was originally number 5. It wasn't renumbered until 1779. Today it also serves as the prime minister's office. There is a corridor running right through the chancellor of the exchequer's residence at number 11, which connects with 12 Downing Street to provide even more space.

What was the shortest war between two nations?

Andy Lumley

The Anglo-Zanzibar War. This began on 27 August 1896 when Sultan Khalid bin Barghash took the throne of Zanzibar, replacing his uncle, who had recently died. The British suspected Barghash had killed the previous sultan, and wanted Hammoud bin Mohammed as the successor instead, as he was more amenable to British interests. Britain claimed that Khalid had broken an 1889 treaty between the two countries that required Britain's permission before any new sultan could take office. Three cruisers and two gunboats arrived in the harbour of Zanzibar Town, and Khalid was given an ultimatum to leave the palace by 9am local time. At 9.02am the Navy began shelling the palace, and at 9.40am they stopped. The Sultan's army sustained 500 casualties; one British sailor was injured. Khalid fled to German East Africa, and Sultan Hamud was installed as a puppet leader.



The royal palace was almost totally destroyed during the British bombardment of Zanzibar Town

This day in history 27 April

630

Shahrbaraz crowned King

With the help of the Byzantine emperor, Heraclius, the Persian noble, Shahrbaraz, usurps the throne of the Sassanid Empire, which spans the Middle East. He is assassinated after 40 days.

1296

Battle of Dunbar

In a short cavalry battle, English knights defeat Scots loyal to John Balliol, who has the strongest claim to the empty Scottish throne. Balliol is sent into captivity and forced to relinquish his kingdom.



1570

Elizabeth declared heretic

Pope Pius V issues a papal bull denouncing Elizabeth I as a heretic, and excommunicating those who follow her commands. Elizabeth had restored the Church of England as state religion, after Queen Mary's Catholic reign.



1667

Paradise Lost, sold

Having spent five years dictating his 10,000-line poem, *Paradise Lost*, while completely blind, John Milton sells the publication rights for just £10. It is immediately hailed as a masterpiece.



Which ruler has survived the most assassination attempts?

Maggie Hoad

One strong contender would be Fidel Castro, who ruled Cuba between 1976 and 2008. Fabian Escalante, who was Cuba's chief of counterintelligence from 1976, has claimed that the CIA made 638 assassination attempts on Castro between 1959 and 2000. These included poisoned cigars, exploding cigars, scuba-diving equipment coated with infectious fungus, and ballpoint pens with concealed poisoned hypodermic needles, as well as many more straightforward shootings and bombings. Eight of these plots were confirmed by a 1975 Senate Select Committee. The most recent documented attempt occurred in Panama in 2000 when the CIA planted 90kg of explosives under the podium where Castro was due to speak.

Castro poses in 1969 with a newspaper headline about another plot by the CIA to assassinate him

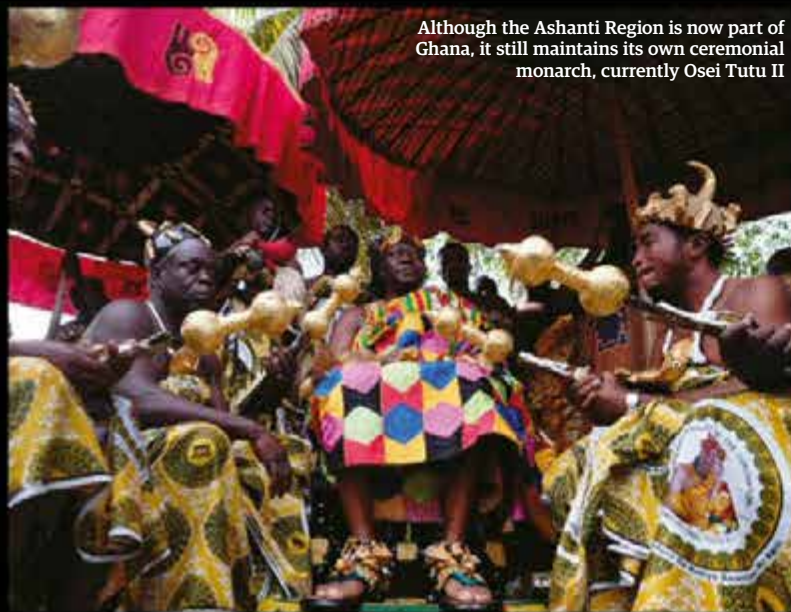


FIDEL ALEJANDRO CASTRO RUZ

Nationality: Cuban
Born-died: 13 August 1926 - 25 November 2016

Brief Bio

Fidel Castro was the son of a wealthy Spanish farmer who became a left-wing revolutionary while studying law at the University of Havana. He played a leading role in the revolution that overthrew President Batista in 1959 and rose to be Cuba's prime minister and then president.



Although the Ashanti Region is now part of Ghana, it still maintains its own ceremonial monarch, currently Osei Tutu II

Who were the Ashanti?

Laith Edmonds

The Ashanti (or Asante) Empire existed from 1701 to 1957 in what is now Ghana, West Africa. It was formed when Chief Oti Akenten united the Ashanti clans and defeated the neighbouring Denkyira state. In 1896 Britain annexed the Ashanti Empire under the command of Robert Baden-Powell (who went on to found the Boy Scouts). They regained self-rule in 1935, and in 1957 became part of Ghana when Ghana gained independence from the UK.



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1861

Habeas Corpus suspended

At the start of the American Civil War, President Abraham Lincoln suspends the 'writ of habeas corpus'. This means that his military commanders can detain prisoners without any specific legal authority.

1865

Steamboat Sultana explodes

In the USA's worst-ever maritime disaster, the Mississippi paddle steamer, Sultana, sinks after three of her four boilers simultaneously explode. 1,700 passengers die - more than will later perish on the Titanic.



1950

Group Areas Act

The South African government further strengthens the racial segregation of apartheid, with a law that assigns different urban areas to each racial group. Non-whites are forcibly relocated from their homes.

1981

Computer mouse invented

The Xerox photocopier company releases the first computer system using a mouse to navigate the user interface, complete with windows and icons. But the Xerox Star 8010 costs \$16,500 and is a commercial failure.



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Cover images

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Printing & Distribution

Wyndeham Peterborough, Storey's Bar Road, Peterborough, Cambridgeshire, PE1 5Y5

Distributed in the UK, Eire & the Rest of the World by
Marketforce, 5 Churchill Place, Canary Wharf, London, E14 5HU
☎ 0203 787 9060 www.marketforce.co.uk

Distributed in Australia by Gordon & Gotch Australia Pty Ltd,
26 Rodborough Road, Frenchs Forest, New South Wales 2086
☎ +61 2 9972 8800 www.gordongotch.com.au

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ISSN 2052-5870



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HISTORY HOLLYWOOD

Fact versus fiction on the silver screen



THE MESSENGER: THE STORY OF JOAN OF ARC

Director: Luc Besson **Starring:** Milla Jovovich, John Malkovich, Rab Affleck **Country:** Czech Republic **Released:** 1999

Does Luc Besson do the Maid of Orléans justice?

VERDICT  pays superficial attention to the curriculum, but makes some glaring errors.

01 The opening scene shows English forces setting fire to Joan's village in 1420, while a soldier rapes and kills her sister. In reality, it was 1425 when a largely Burgundian force sacked the village. Joan and her family were forced to flee, but it's likely that none were harmed.

02 Joan is depicted in battle as receiving arrow wounds to the leg and above the breast, which are in line with historical accounts. However, in the film Joan doesn't appear to notice the leg wound until she's told. We're going to assume artistic license on that one.

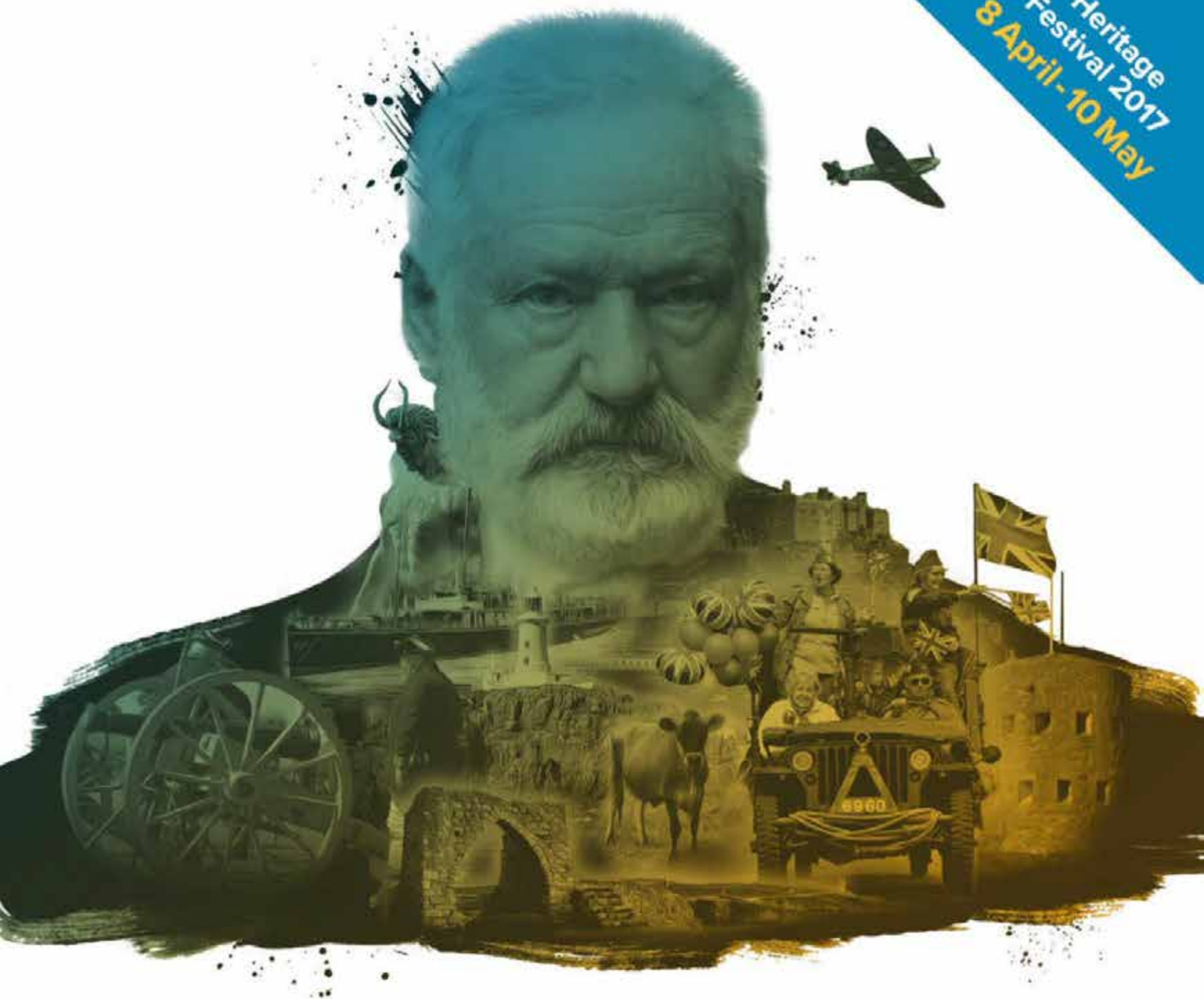
03 In order to prove that she was a messenger from God, Joan is tested by King Charles VII (John Malkovich). She is questioned on theology and even has to undergo a physical examination to see whether or not she is a virgin. Accounts say this really happened.

04 Contrary to the stoic individual Joan is remembered as, in the film she is at times represented as raving and bordering on hysterical. One scene involves her conscience (Dustin Hoffman) appearing to question her motivations for what she's doing.

05 Despite the sensationalism that has been ascribed to her story elsewhere in the film, ultimately the scene depicting her execution stays pretty faithful to real-life accounts, seeing her burned to death at the stake in the marketplace at Rouen.



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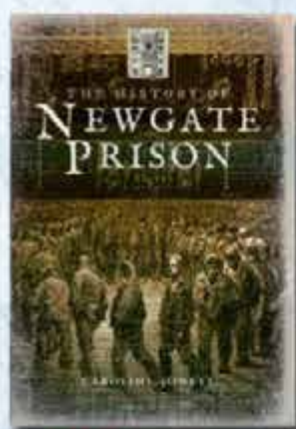
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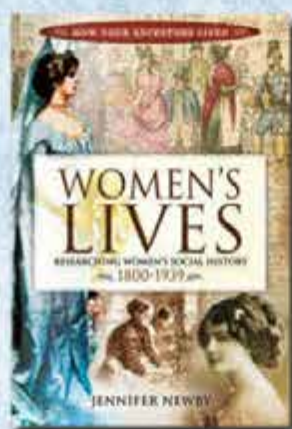
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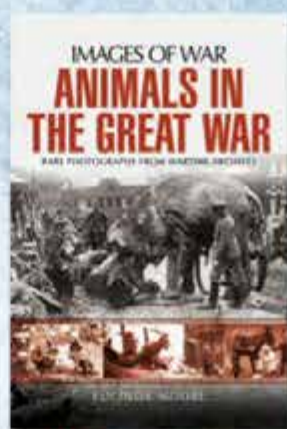
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